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Yanukovych a rapist, Omelchenko charges

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UCC looks to the future

XXI Congress held in Winnipeg

By Marco Levytsky

Over 200 delegates representing Ukrainian organizations from across Canada gathered in Winnipeg for the XXI Triennial Congress of Ukrainian Canadians, Oct. 1-3.

The theme of the conference was "Moving Confidently Into the Future" in the development of the Ukrainian Canadian community.

Newly-elected President Orysia Sushko of Hamilton touched upon this in her acceptance speech when she stated:

"We, the Ukrainian Canadian community have a glorious past. We can justly be proud of our countless accomplishments. But we cannot rest on our laurels, we must move forward. With a rich background and a wealth of experience as our legacy, united, we can look ahead with faith and understanding and move confidently into the future."

However, much of the attention of delegates was relations with the government of Canada and issues that concern the Ukrainian community in this country.

Chief among them was the upcoming Ukrainian presidential election (first round Oct. 31, second, Nov. 14) and Canada's role in sending monitors to help assure the election is carried out in a fair and transparent manner.

Foreign Minister. Pierre Pettigrew, flew down for the first day of the Congress and met with UCC representatives including outgoing President Eugene Czolij, UCC Vice President Paul Grod,

Orysia Sushko

Canada Ukraine Committee Chair Irene Mycak and UCC Executive Director Ostap Skrypnyk. Also participating in the meeting was Member of Parliament for Etobicoke-Centre, Borys Wrzesnewskyj.

The UCC delegation commended the Canadian government and its Ambassador to Ukraine, Andrew Robinson, for attracting global attention to developments in Ukraine, which are indicators that the elections could fail to meet democratic standards.

The disappointment of the community, however, with respect to the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) observer mission to Ukraine was also conveyed. Although the mission is much larger that any past delegations, there is a noted lack of representation from the Ukrainian community. With respect to Ukrainian citizens residing in Canada wishing to exercise their vote, the delegation discussed the opening of additional polling stations across Canada.

Also emphasized was the importance of ensuring the continuation of Radio Canada International's Ukrainian language broadcasting beyond the presidential elections.

Following the meeting Pettigrew addressed delegates.

On the closing day of the Congress, Mycak reported that the UCC has surpassed its initial goal of 60 volunteer observers from the Ukrainian community In Canada and currently has signed up 75.

She said the committee anticipates signing up 100 by the time of the election.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for the overwhelming response to the UCC's appeal for observers. The committee which was tasked with this project has made every effort to secure financial support from the federal government and other Canadian sources. Unfortunately, to date we have not been successful, al-

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PHOTO — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Eugene Harasymiw's coffin is carried out of St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral. In the foreground, left to right: Fr. Taras Udod of North Battleford, Bishop John Stinka, Eparch of Western Canada, Fr. Stephan Semotiuk, pastor of St. John's.

Overflow crowd bids farewell to Harasymiw

By Marco Levytsky

An overflow crowd filled St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Edmonton, Oct. 8, to pay their finals respects to Eugene Harasymiw, a tireless activist with and advocate for the Ukrainian community in Canada.

Harasymiw passed away at the Cross Cancer Institute on Oct. 2 at the age of 63 years. He is survived by his loving family; wife, Natalie; two sons, Adrian and Andriy; one brother, Bohdan (Elaine); nephew, Peter; niece, Theodora; cousins, Olga Petrie, Ted and Paul Kobak, all of Toronto and Roy Kobak of Houston, numerous other relatives and close friends.

A long time member of the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League (USRL), the lay organization of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, Harasymiw served at various posts within that organization and within the umbrella Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

Eugene Harasymiw (1941-2004)

He was also an outspoken advocate for the Ukrainian Canadian community on justice issues — especially the Denaturalization and Deportation process of the revocation of citizenship of Canadians of East European — and particularly Ukrainian — origin, and Redress for the Internment of Ukrainian Canadians during World War I.

It was Harasymiw's work on behalf of and his role in defending the community's interests that was noted most prominently by the speakers at the memorial luncheon following his interment.

"I know I speak for all of Yevhen's fellow UCCLA (Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association) activists, when I say that there can be no one who will replace Yevhen and the role he played in fighting injustice against our Ukrainian Community in Canada. He was unique in his passion, knowledge, determination, patience and dedication in work for our community," said Taras Podilsky on behalf of UCCLA.

Podilsky noted that Harasymiw repeatedly organized and gener-

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Україну готують до зриву виборів?

(Українська правда/Інтерфакс-Україна)—В Україні штучно нагнітається напружена ситуація, щоб підготувати суспільну думку до можливості зриву президентських виборів.

Про це заявив директор Інституту масової інформації Сергій Таран.

"Я не виключаю, що це віртуальна війна, яка йде в Україні на екранах і в газетах, є наслідком саме підготовки до можливого зриву виборів", - сказав він на прес-конференції 12–го жовтня у Києві.

Виходячи з результатів моніторингу, проведеного ІМІ у вересні, за словами Тарана, можна сказати про те, що ЗМІ постійно подають інформацію про конфліктну ситуацію в Україні.

"Постійно розкручується карта конфліктної на–пруженої ситуації в країні. Ця конфліктна ситуація подається з коментарем, де нечітко роз'яснюється ситуація, хто зацікавлений у такому конфлікті", - пояснив він.На думку Тарана, влада залишає за собою "хід для маневру".

"Для тих, хто зараз перебуває при владі, для них найгіршим варіантом буде, якщо просто відбудуться вибори, і Ющенко або Янукович одержить необ–межену президентську владу", - сказав він.

"У такий спосіб нинішня влада фактично втратить все, хоча зараз вона має найбільшу владу і тому теоретично для них було б найкращим варіантом, якби ці вибори не відбулися", - вважає Таран.

За словами директора ІМІ, результати моніто–рингу свідчать про те, що більшість ЗМІ надавали нерівний доступ кандидатам до своєї глядацької або читацької аудиторії.

Зокрема, фактично всі національні канали давали велику частину прямого ефіру кандидатові від влади - Януковичу в порівнянні з іншими кандидатами.

Прод. на ст. 2

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Чорновола назвали зрадником і нагадали, що режим вбив його батька

(Українська правда)—Народні депутати України Володимир Філенко і Тарас Стецьків вважають зрадою участь народного депутата Тараса Чорновола в передвиборчій кампанії кандидата у президенти Віктора Януковича.

Про це говориться в їхньому відкритому листі, поширеному прес-службою штабу Ющенка.

"Ми всіляко вітали твій, Тарасе, прихід у велику політику, і були раді твоєму приєднанню до нашої 'трійки'. Ми прийняли тебе як брата, бо ти, фактично, замінив нам покійного Ємця", - говориться в листі депутатів.

Вони згадують як разом з Чорноволом брали активну участь в діяльності Форуму національного порятунку, в акціях "Україна без Кучми!", "боролися зі злодійським режимом, який створив і очолює Леонід Кучма, режимом, який знищив його батька". "Будемо відвертими: ніхто з нас не вважав і не вважає Віктора Ющенка ідеальним. У кожної людини і політика є свої переваги і недоліки. Але ми завжди сходилися на тому, що іншого шляху в нас немає, окрім як підтримати Віктора Ющенка. Бо на цих виборах ми обираємо не прізвище, а шлях розвитку України", - говорять депутати.

Вони згадують, що Чорновіл був "найзапеклішим" критиком Віктора Ющенка, з яким вони "часто погоджувалися, проте часто й сперечалися".

"Але ти перейшов межу, яку не мав права переходити. З критика Ющенка ти перетворився на прислужника режиму Кучми-Януковича-Медведчука. Того режиму, який довів за 13 років Україну до прірви. Того режиму, з яким боролися ми з тобою. Врешті того режиму, який вбив твого батька – В'ячеслава Чорновола", - говориться в листі.

Вони називають вчинок Чорновола "зрадою". "Це – зрада нашій спільній справі боротьби з кучмізмом, зрада нашій дружбі, зрада пам'яті твого батька", - зазначають Стецьків і Філенко.

"Але найбільше бентежить те, що ти став активним захисником уособлення режиму – Віктора Януковича. Янукович в твоїх очах став хорошим прем'єром, з яким можна працювати, хоча ще півроку тому він був для тебе найбездарнішим", - нагадують депутати.

Вони вказують, що останньою краплею для них були слова Чорновола про камінці, якими невідомий влучив у голову Януковича під час поїздки до Івано-Франківська.

"І цей фарс ти назвав фашизмом. Як же тоді назвати все те, що чинить існуючий режим, яскравим породженням якого є твій нинішній "бос", в тому числі і по відношенню до нелюбого тобі Віктора Ющенка. Чи може ти забув Харків, Донецьк, Суми, безліч інших злочинів і пакостей бандитської влади?", - питають депутати.

"То чи не соромно тобі, Тарасе, брати участь в цих брудних сценаріях режиму, на руках якого кров В'ячеслава Чорновола? Чи не соромно тобі захищати і підтримувати двічі судимого, безграмотного і недолугого актора (чи точніше "танцора"), якому заважає те, що в нього влучило? А от нам за тебе соромно!", - говориться в листі.

Кравченка затримали на 10 діб

СБУ його вважає дезертиром

(Українська правда/Інтерфакс-Україна)—Колишньому генералові СБУ Валерієві Кравченку обвинувачення не пред'явлене. Суд продовжив термін його затримання до 10 діб, запобіжний захід не обирався.

Про це повідомив на брифінгу в Києві 11–го жовтня заступник глави Служби безпеки України Ігор Дріжчаний.

За його словами, наразі Кравченко знаходиться в ізоляторі тимчасового затримання в Києві. Щодо нього порушено кримінальну справу за статтею 330 частина 2 Кримінального кодексу - передача або збір відомостей, які становлять конфіденційну інформацію.

Дріжчаний відзначив, що в лютому 2004 року Кравченко, знаходячись у Німеччині на посаді радника, одержав наказ прибути до Києва, "однак від виконання цього наказу він відмовився".

Заступник голови СБУ підкреслив, що йому б не хотілося вживати слово "дезертир" стосовно Кравченка, однак "Кравченко зробив протиправні дії, пов'язані з обов'язками військовослужбовця".

"Наказ про повернення на місце служби був зігнорований. Передавши матеріали, генерал Кравченко створив загрозу системам зв'язку", - сказав Дріжчаний. Він також додав, що наказ про стеження Кравченко "ніколи не одержував".

Відповідаючи на питання журналістів, чи не свідчить стаття Кримінального кодексу, по якій порушено кримінальну справу щодо Кравченка, про те, що він повідомив правду, Дріжчаний сказав, що в СБУ до Кравченка інші питання - у першу чергу, відмова від виконання наказу.

Заступник голови СБУ також пояснив, що непред'явлення обвинувачення на даний момент свідчить про те, що кримінальну справу може бути перекваліфіковано. "Слідство визначиться з обвинуваченнями", - сказав він.

Відповідаючи на питання про те, чи були якісь домовленості між СБУ і Кравченком, тобто чи не виманювала СБУ його на територію України, Дріжчаний сказав: "Ніяких домовленостей і обіцянок не було".

Що стосується бізнесмена Володимира Цвіля, то за словами заступника голови СБУ, "у ході розслідування кримінальної справи щодо Кравченка Цвіль також має бути допитаний". Разом з тим Дріжчаний підкреслив, що інших питань до нього в СБУ немає.

Він додав, що Кравченко звільнений із займаної посади, однак залишається військовослужбовцем.

Як повідомлялося, Кравченко знаходиться в даний час у Києві під вартою, щодо нього порушено кримінальну справу. Слідство веде СБУ.

Раніше Кравченка і Цвіля затримали на польсько-українському кордоні. Пізніше Цвіля відпустили, і він припустив, що співробітники української спецслужби затримали Кравченка тільки тому, що той віз у машині копії документів про роботу СБУ і "касетний скандал".

Колишній радник посольства України в Німеччині, екс-генерал СБУ Кравченко, який заявив, що має у своєму розпорядженні матеріали про політичне стеження за українською опозицією, санкціоноване владою, передав через народного депутата Миколу Томенка низку матеріалів в Україну. Генпрокуратура розглянула їх і відмовила в порушенні кримінальної справи, оскільки перевірка жодних порушень закону в матеріалах Кравченка не виявила.

Наприкінці травня в українську редакцію радіостанції "Німецька хвиля" звернувся український бізнесмен Володимир Цвіль, який називає себе безпосереднім учасником "касетного скандалу".

Цвіль стверджує, що саме він вивіз за кордон записи, зроблені Мельниченком в кабінеті президента України. Крім того, Цвіль обвинуватив низку українських посадових осіб - Євгена Марчука, Володимира Радченка, Ігоря Смешка - у тім, що вони знали про ведення записів у кабінеті глави держави.

Пізніше Цвіль спростував таке твердження і заявив, що нічого подібного "Німецькій хвилі не говорив". У червні Генпрокуратура допитала Цвіля.

Україну готують до зриву

Прод. із ст. 1

Так, у вересні поточного року обсяг прямих висловлень Януковича склав 66% на телеканалі "Інтер", 47% - на "ICTV", 71% - на телеканалах "1+1" і "УТ-2", 28% - на "УТ-1" і 32% - на "5-ому каналі".

У той же час прямим висловленням кандидата у президенти Віктора Ющенка приділялося 7% мовлення на телеканалі "УТ-1", 5% - на "1+1" і "УТ-2", 17% - на "Інтері", 3% - на "ICTV" і 49% - на "5-ом каналі".

За словами Тарана, якщо в більшості повідомлень інформація про кандидата від влади подавалася в позитивному контексті, то про інших кандидатів, особливо про Ющенка, - у негативному.

"Основним контекстом, у якому основні національні телевізійні канали подавали інформацію про кандидата від опозиції Ющенка, є різноманітна конфліктна ситуація, зокрема уявлювані міжнародні конфлікти і так зване протистояння між Сходом і Заходом України у виборчій боротьбі", сказав Таран.

Таран також повідомив, що ІМІ буде протистояти фальсифікації майбутніх екзит-полів у ході виборів 31 жовтня. За його словами, ІМІ підписав меморандум про співробітництво з фондом "Демократичні ініціативи" для проведення журналістського дослідження роботи экзит-полів.

"Ми будемо виявляти факти можливих порушень, про які будемо вас інформувати", - сказав Таран, підкресливши: "Жодної гарантії, що соціологічні дослідження і экзит-поли будуть коректними, ми не можемо дати".

Overflow crowd bids farewell to Harasymiw

Cont. from P. 1

ously supported UCCLA projects and was always first behind the table, often with his Natalka on fund raising campaigns.

His activism began in the 1980's during the Deschesne Commission. Harasymiw was determined that any Canadian who was accused of war crimes would not fall victim to injustice.

Over the last few months he spent his time at home writing a book on Canada's War Crimes Policy. In order to make sure that Yevhen's work lives on, UCCLA is setting up a trust in his memory to ensure that the book he was working on at the time of his death will be completed and published.

"Most people look for an excuse not to get involved in community activism. Yevhen on the other hand looked for reasons to get involved. He did so to serve others — to stand up for those whom not many would stand up for. It wasn't always politically correct, but that didn't bother Yevhen. He quietly went about doing what was right, and convinced."

Speaking on behalf of the Alberta USRL, Dr. Harry Hohol, said that Eugene was a driving force in reviving USRL at the provincial level and stood up to take the position of president of the local branch when its continued existence was in jeopardy.

"His keen sense of fairness and justice led him to commit countless hours in research, writing and speaking on behalf of persons unjustly accused of war crimes, as well as those accused (without a shred of evidence beyond hearsay) of giving false information to obtain Canadian citizenship."

Dr. Hohol also noted Harasy-miw's desire to nurture our youth, and particularly CYMK, along the path of greater participation and activity at the local, provincial and national levels.

"Thinking of Eugene as a person, aside from any particular pursuit or endeavor brings to mind a number of ways to describe him: a loyal friend, a tireless worker, outgoing, personable, unselfish, dedicated, and humble to the 'nth' degree. He had an uncanny knack of praising and complementing individuals and groups in situations where most of us wouldn't even think of it. He also had a sense of humour that belied his normally serious demeanor."

Speaking on behalf of the local branch, Dr. Orest Talpash recalled how when both of them were students at the University of Saskatchewan and boarded at the Petrol Mohole Ukrainian Institute, they belonged to the students' club "Kameniari", named after the poem by Ivan Franko. In it, Franko described a dream in which he and many others were fettered to a granite rockface, sentenced to a life-time of hammering away at this mountain.

"This exhausting and ultimately deadly toil was made bearable only because the doomed labourers knew that the stones they broke off that granite mountain would ultimately serve to become a roadway, an easier path for travellers who would come after them.

"Eugene Harasymiw was one of those Kameniari.

"But I will take the liberty of adding to Franko's metaphor. I think that for Eugene Harasymiw, that granite mountain represented the three things he hated most: apathy, ignorance and injustice. Yes, Eugene Harasymiw devoted his life to chipping away at apathy, ignorance and injustice, while building a better roadway for those who will come after him," he said.

Speaking on behalf of St. John's Orthodox Parish, George Zaharia said Harasymiw's contributions to his church and the various lay organizations were unparalleled, but his more recent work with UCCLA "drew out of him a passion that caused him to dedicate himself wholeheartedly to right the injustice that was being perpetrated.

"Eugene was an extremely principled man, and when he saw a great injustice, he didn't only talk about it, but he took action and worked tirelessly to bring about a just conclusion."

He also commented on Harasymiw's love of his family.

"What we all saw was as close knit a family as is possible. There was an obvious love, caring, and respectfulness shared by Eugene and Natalie. They displayed a deep dedication and a jubilant pride of their sons Adrian and Andrew, and the boys, in turn, showed a deep respect and love of their parents."

Speaking on behalf of the National USRL, Michael Zaleschuk said Harasymiw was a "friend, advisor, mentor and champion of the USRL, never too busy to help those who asked". He described him as quiet, modest and concerned.

Speaking on behalf of Alberta Justice, where Harasymiw worked since 1978, William Nungent, said Harasymiw had a great ability to connect with people because "he treated everybody with dignity, respect and honesty. He valued people and they valued him."

In addition to being a fine lawyer, he also had an extraordinary sense of wit and humour, Nungent noted.

Speaking on behalf of the family, Eugene's brother Bohdan related their childhood experiences in Hafford and North Battleford, Sask., and talked about some of his other interests, notably golf and his ownership of two harness racing horses.

Eugene Harasymiw was born in Hafford, Feb. 14, 1941. The family moved to North Battleford in 1945, and there Eugene began and finished his elementary and secondary schooling. After high school graduation, he worked as a bank teller, then obtained a teaching certificate from the University of Saskatchewan and spent the seven years teaching in elementary and secondary schools in the smaller communities of Alberta.

He returned to university in 1971 graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree and then with a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Alberta in 1976, and the following year was admitted to the Bar. He then joined the Civil Division of the Department of Justice in the Government of Alberta, specializing in municipal law.

He served as President of the St. John's parish board, and held office in, among many others: the Alberta Provincial Council and Edmonton local branch of the UCC, the USRLC, and the UCCLA. He was on the boards of St. John's Institute as well as St. Andrew's College. He also spearheaded the Children of Chornobyl campaign following that disaster in 1986, and served as auditor for the Shevchenko Foundation for the past six years.

In 1979, Eugene married Natalie Radomskyj, and they settled in Edmonton, where their sons, Adrian and Andrew, were born. Adrian graduated in 2003 with a business degree, and Andrew is in his final year of the Bachelor of Science programme, both at the U of A.

The funeral service was conducted by Bishop Ivan Stinka of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Fr. Stephen Semotiuk, pastor of St. John's, and Fr. Taras Udod of North Battleford.

Interment was at St. Stephen's Cemetery.

Mark re-introduces redress legislation

(UkrNews)—Oct. 12, in the House of Commons, Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette MP Inky Mark re-introduced his Private Member's Bill for the Ukrainian Canadian Restitution Act as well as the Chinese Canadian Recognition and Restitution Act.

Mark's Bill on Ukrainian redress calls on the federal government "to recognize the injustice that was done to persons of Ukrainian descent and other Europeans who were interned at the time of the First World War and to provide public commemoration and for restitution, which is to be devoted to education and promotion of tolerance."

"In 1993, Jean Chrétien, Leader of the Liberal Party wrote in a letter that he was in favour of not only acknowledging the internment operations but also providing restitution to those who were held unjustly. It is long passed time for the Liberals to follow through on this promise," Mark stated.

Mark's other Bill, The Chinese Canadian Recognition and Restitution Act calls on the federal government to publicly recognize the circumstances surrounding the collection of a 'head tax" from Chinese immigrants and the passing of the Exclusion Act in 1923. The legislation would also see that some of the money collected from Chinese immigrants was returned. In turn, the money would be put into an educational foundation to promote racial harmony.

"Today, there are over 1 million Canadians of Chinese descent. The sacrifices and achievements of their forefathers must be acknowledged and commemorated in a proper manner."

Just prior to the 2004 federal election, candidates from all federal parties endorsed this legislation with members of the Conservative Party, the Bloc Quebecois, and the NDP supporting it unanimously.

"These Bills bring to the forefront two of the darkest moments in Canada's history. After years of delays and excuses, they deserve to be dealt with. It is this Liberal government's responsibility to make amends for past injustices," Mark concluded.

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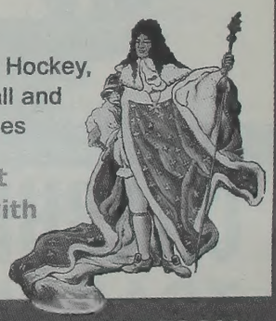

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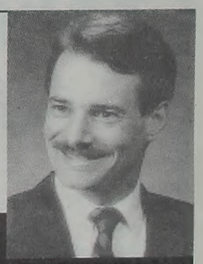

ARTHUR WARING CA, CIP

Американський суддя відмовився повернути Лазаренка у в'язницю

Сергій Куделя, *Радіо Свобода*

Колишній Прем'єр-міністр України Павло Лазаренко поки що не буде ув'язнений і залишиться під домашнім арештом. Таке рішення в середу ухвалив суддя окружного суду міста Сан-Франциско Мартін Дженкінс. У червні Лазаренка присяжні визнали винним у відмиванні грошей і здирництві. Остаточний вирок колишньому українському прем'єрові має оголосити суддя.

Після винесення судом присяжних вердикту щодо Павла Лазаренка, суддя Мартін Дженкінс встановив тримісячну перерву у судовому процесі. За цей час сторона обвинувачення вимагала від суду запровадження жорсткіших каральних санкцій проти Лазаренка. А адвокати колишнього прем'єра намагалися пом'якшити майбутній вирок своєму клієнту.

На їхню думку, попередні чотири роки ув'язнення Лазаренка повністю компенсують усі його ймовірні провини. Сам Лазаренко упродовж останніх трьох місяців продовжує перебувати під домашнім арештом із посиленим спостереженням.

Відновлення суду над Лазаренком у середу було позначене невеликою перемогою його команди захисту. За повідомленням агенції Франс-Прес, суддя Дженкінс відкинув прохання сторони обвинувачення про негайне повторне ув'язнення українського екс-прем'єра. Суддя також відмовився задовольнити вимогу обвинувачення про позбавлення Лазаренка 22 мільйонів доларів, які нібито він отримав незаконним шляхом. Рішення про конфіскацію фінансів Лазаренка він вважає передчасним.

Водночас суддя взяв до розгляду петицію адвокатів про проведення нового судового процесу. За словами представників захисту, вони зібрали нові документи, які свідчать, що Лазаренко не порушував українського законодавства. Адвокати стверджують, що Генеральна прокуратура України та Адміністрація Президента приховували від слідства фінансову документацію фірм Лазаренка, що позбавило журі присяжних можливості отримати об'єктивну інформацію про підсудного.

Один з адвокатів Лазаренка Деніел Горовиц також вважає, що перешкодою для слідства став і неназваний високий посадовець в американському уряді, який забезпечував Президента Кучму внутрішньою інформацією про перебіг розслідування. Це, у свою чергу, нібито допомагало українській владі контролювати небезпечних свідків та важливу документацію в Україні.

Суддя Дженкінс схиляється на користь аргументів захисту, оскільки вважає, що обвинувачення так і не знайшло доказів порушення Лазаренком українських законів чинних у період його діяльності. Дата наступного судового засідання у справі Лазаренка поки що не визначена.

ЄС й далі турбує становище зі свободою слова в Україні

Мар'яна Драч, *Радіо Свобода*

Європейський Союз знову закликає Україну провести президентські вибори вільно, справедливо і прозоро. Про це мовиться у заяві, яку 11-го жовтня оприлюднили у Люксембурзі. Міністри закордонних справ ЄС наголошують, що цей заклик лунає вже не вперше. 29 вересня ЄС вже нагадував українській владі, що ці вибори продемонструють, чи Україна дотримується демократичних стандартів Ради Європи і ОБСЄ, а також вплинуть на подальші відносини Києва з Брюсселем. З огляду на перебіг нинішньої передвиборчої кампанії в Україні, ЄС знову наголошує, що дуже важливими є незалежність мас-медіа і свобода слова.

Євросоюз вітає те, що Україна запросила міжнародних спостерігачів за виборами, але водночас закликає українську владу надати таку можливість представникам українських громадських організацій.

Ющенко сказав, які будуть його перші укази у випадку перемоги

(Українська правда)—Віктор Ющенко 12-го жовтня завізував свої перші п'ять указів на посаді президента України, які наберуть сили у разі його перемоги на виборах.

Документи було затверджено на зустрічі Ющенка з керівництвом його виборчої кампанії та експертами, які працюють над програмою перших 100 днів його президентства.

Першим указом "після прийняття відставки уряду Януковича" буде указ "Про першочергові заходи з посилення соціального захисту громадян України".

Як повідомляє сайт Ющенка, указ передбачає, що на 2005 рік буде законодавчо встановлено підвищений прожитковий мінімум у 423 гривні (сьогодні він становить 362 гривні).

Це компенсує громадянам зменшення реальних доходів від зростання цін, що відбулося внаслідок дій уряду Януковича, спрямованих на "купівлю" голосів виборців.

Згідно з проектом указу, законодавчо визначені мінімальна зарплата і мінімальна пенсія не можуть бути нижчими за прожитковий мінімум.

"Сьогодні мінімальна зарплата, яку уряд Януковича встановив під тиском "Нашої України" і то лише з 1 вересня 2004, становить 237 гривень. Разові добавки до пенсії, встановлені урядом "під вибори", можуть бути в будь-який час ним же і відмінені, на їх фінансування в урядовому проекті Державного бюджету на 2005 рік коштів немає", - зазначив Ющенко.

"Ми цього не допустимо. Я гарантую кожному пенсіонеру, що після моєї перемоги ті разові надбавки до пенсій, які вони зараз отримують, будуть узаконені і зафіксовані в кожній пенсійній книжці", - додав Ющенко.

"І мінімальна зарплата, і мінімальна пенсія будуть встановлені у збільшеному розмірі законом, який новий уряд буде неухильно виконувати", - наголосив кандидат у президенти.

Ющенко визначився, що його другий указ на посаді президента стосуватиметься повернення громадянам втрачених заощаджень.

Указ N2 передбачає залучення до бюджету додаткових коштів, недоотриманих від приватизації стратегічних об'єктів у 2004 році, та спрямування цих коштів на компенсацію втрачених заощаджень. Йдеться, зокрема, про такі підприємства як "Криворіжсталь" (скандально виграний голдингом Пінчука і Ахметова).

Указом також передбачено, що в 2005 році на ці цілі підуть позапланові надходження до бюджету, а також 50 відсотків від загального обсягу коштів, отриманих від приватизації.

"Крім того, згідно з указом, держава зробить те, що вона дотепер відмовлялася зробити - визнає втрачені заощадження громадян державним боргом, який обов'язково має бути повернено людям", - зазначає прес-служба.

Третім указом Ющенка буде підвищення розміру одноразової допомоги при народженні дитини.

Указ передбачає законодавче підвищення одноразової допомоги матері при народженні дитини, як і обіцяно в Плані дій Ющенка, більше ніж у 10 разів. Її розмір буде розраховуватися на основі нового, підвищеного до 423 грн. прожиткового мінімуму, і становитиме 8460 гривень.

Указ має на меті посилити рівень соціального захисту для матерів з дітьми, полегшити фінансовий тягар, що лягає на плечі батьків при народженні дитини. Зараз держава надає матері, яка народила дитину, одноразову допомогу в розмірі 725 гривень.

Тимошенко навчила, куди треба йти у разі фальсифікації виборів

(Українська правда)—Співголова коаліції на підтримку Ющенка "Сила народу" Юлія Тимошенко закликала виборців 31 жовтня о 20 годині прийти до дільниць, щоб зашкодити фальсифікації.

Про це вона заявила, виступаючи перед виборцями в неділю у Червонограді, повідомляє Західна інформаційна корпорація.

"Ви всі підете голосувати, але прохання: після того, як ви проголосуєте, ввечері, о 20.00, 31 жовтня ви всі прийдіть кожен до своєї дільниці. Саме з 20 години 31 жовтня почнеться підрахунок голосів і якраз в цей момент і може початися фальсифікація", - зазначила Тимошенко.

"Якщо хтось з членів дільничої комісії, делегованих від Януковича, почнуть фальсифікувати результати і побачать вас біля дільниці, вони не зможуть цього зробити", - заявила вона.

"І якщо протягом двох годин, починаючи з 20.00 немає ніяких результатів і протоколів, то знайте, що почалась фальсифікація, що на цій дільниці вже йдуть махінації".

Тимошенко порадила в такому випадку: "спокійно без агресії виходити на виборчі дільниці всім народом, вимагати перерахунку голосів на всій дільниці".

Вона також закликала виборців в разі фальсифікації рушити до Києва без закликів опозиції: "В нас буде один день для того, щоб народ спокійно, але впевнено сказав "ні".

"Нам не потрібно буде робити революцію, нам потрібно буде тільки одне, щоб на площі біля ЦВК у Києві було не 10 тисяч людей, а були сотні і сотні тисяч людей".

"І тоді нам не доведеться сказати жодного слова, і вони самі зрозуміють, що вони мусять скласти документи і піти геть", - заявила вона.

Лідер БЮТ також закликала виборців стати спостерігачами на виборах: "Хто може 31 жовтня стати спостерігачем, прийдіть і запишіться. Зробіть, щоб ви бачили власними очима, як відбуваються вибори на дільниці".

Під час свого виступу Тимошенко також заявила, що вона приїхала, щоб розказати, про певні технології, які приготувала влада до виборів. Перша з них – це розділення опозиційних сил на "окремі шматки".

За словами Тимошенко, друга технологія "в дусі донецьких": "В Україні 37 мільйонів людей, які мають право голосувати, з них 12 мільйонів пенсіонерів. Вони (влада) цинічно поставили саме на пенсіонерів. Вони просто в конвертики, будуть запечатувати доплату до пенсій з теплим посланням від Януковича".

Вона нагадала, що Ющенко почистить "від кланів, від узурпаторів України, нашу землю". "Вони повернуть все те, що забрали, і будуть відповідати за те, що робили протягом останніх років", - заявила Тимошенко.

"Я знаю, що Віктор Андрійович має план переглянути все те, що вони зробили з державною власністю. Переглянути глибоко, ретельно і професійно. І все те, що вони розікрали по кишенях, повернути народові України", - зазначила Тимошенко.

На честь Януковича назвали вірус

(Українська правда)—В Інтернеті з'явився новий вірус, названий на честь кандидата від влади Віктора Януковича.

Вірус розсилається з темою повідомлення "Янукович - ЗЕК! Хотите убедиться? Смотрите!".

Про це в понеділок повідомляє комітет "Громадяни проти злочинців у політиці".

Вірус надсилається з адреси е-пошти janukovich@zek.com. Цей вірус містить новий варіант вируса "TrojanSpy.Win32.Banker.ds".

Yanukovych a rapist, Omelchenko charges

(UkrNews)—Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, a leading candidate for president, committed rape after serving his earlier prison terms, charges Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc Deputy Hryhoriy Omelchenko.

Speaking in the Verkhovna Rada on Oct. 6, Omelchenko said that after serving his prison terms for robbery and for inflicting injuries of medium severity "Yanukovych again committed a serious crime and with a group of persons viciously beat up and raped a woman, but bought off the victim and the criminal case on the incident was closed.

"In the police documents it is noted that Yanukovych organized a group of bandits which rampaged in the city of Yenakiyeve and at night people were afraid to walk into their buildings — he grabbed purses containing three karbovantsi from women, war and work veterans, tore earrings worth 10 karbovantsi live from the ears of girls.

"Later when he worked as the director of an automotive enterprise, he was brought to criminal responsibility for stealing state property in particularly large amounts. At the time of the commission of this crime the Criminal Code prescribed the death penalty. But he was saved from this punishment by a former People's Deputy of Ukraine and astronaut Heorhiy Berehoviy.

"Now everyone understands why Yanukovych does not answer our People's Deputy queries. It is because he is afraid that voters will know the whole truth about his prison terms, that in the past he was a robber, a thief, a rapist and that his hands are bloodied from the vicious beatings delivered to people and given such circumstances he will never be elected President of Ukraine," Omelchenko charged.

A month earlier, Omelchenko was instrumental in creating the "Citizens Against Criminals in Politics" committee, which also includes: Yevhen Zhovtiak, MP (Ukrainian National Party); Ivan Bokiy, MP (Socialist Party of Ukraine); Les Taniuk, MP (People's Rukh of Ukraine), Chairman of the All-Ukrainian "Memorial" Society; Wolodymyr Bondarenko, MP (Reforms and Order Party); Yuriy Karmazin, MP (Our Ukraine coalition); Mykhailo Volynets, MP (Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc), Chairman of the Independent Miners' Union; Ivan Pliushch, MP (Our Ukraine coalition), former speaker of parliament; Oleksiy Ivchenko, MP, Chairman of a subcommittee of the Committee on Legislation on Law Enforcement Organs; Mykola Melnyk, MP (Socialist Party of Ukraine); Wolodymyr Stretovych, MP (Our Ukraine coalition), Chairman of the Committee on the Fight Against Organized Crime and Corruption and Ivan Lozowy, President of the Institute of Statehood and Democracy.

Free vodka can't draw people to Yanukovych rally

A rally in support of presidential candidate Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych in the Ukrainian capital on Oct. 9 failed to attract the thousands that organizers had promised despite free vodka and porridge, reports the Associated Press.

Police said that about 500 people turned out on the mild, autumn day, far thinner numbers than the 10,000 that organizers had earlier expected.

Those attending the rally — mostly students and the retired — were treated to a folk dance, as well as free vodka and porridge.

"I will vote only for Yanukovych," said Olga Kondratyeva, a pensioner. She added: "We lived under Communists, we lived under democrats, now let's try to live under bandits."

Yanukovych was sentenced to two prison terms in the 1970s for robbery, assault and battery, but the court later annulled both convictions, citing a lack of evidence.

Two 18-year-old students, who gave only their first names, Sveta and Katia, said their school dean recommended they attend the rally for Yanukovych, who was on a working visit to Moscow on Oct. 9. Both were eating from steaming plates of free porridge.

Ailing Yushchenko returns to Ukraine

(RFE/RL)—Leading opposition presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko on Oct. 10 returned to Ukraine from the Rudolfinerhaus hospital in Vienna, where he underwent additional treatment the previous week for a mysterious illness, Ukrainian media reported.

Before continuing on to Kyiv, a sickly looking Yushchenko addressed a cheering crowd of supporters, estimated by some sources at 100,000, in Lviv.

"I am a healthy man, and everything I possess belongs to a free and democratic Ukraine," Yushchenko said in Lviv.

In Kyiv, however, Yushchenko told journalists that his treatment will be continued. Austrian doctor Michael Zimpfer, who accompanied Yushchenko on his trip home, told journalists that the cause of Yushchenko's illness remains unclear.

Zimpfer added that it will take medical experts some three weeks to determine whether Yushchenko was poisoned.

Interfax reported on Oct. 12 that Yushchenko is planning to meet with a forum of Ukrainian students in Kyiv on Oct. 16.

Yushchenko before (left) and after (right) the poisoning.

Yushchenko's associates from the Our Ukraine bloc and the Yuliya Tymoshenko Bloc reportedly campaigned for him in the provinces while he was in Vienna.

Meanwhile, Yushchenko said in an interview published in the Oct. 9-15 issue of the "Zerkalo nedeli" weekly that the three worst failures of Leonid Kuchma's 10-year presidency are his lost battle against corruption and crime; the suppression of free speech and introduction of mechanisms for the censorship and deceit of his countrymen; and the glaring poverty of the overwhelming majority of Ukrainians, particularly against the background of the huge fortunes accrued by a small number of oligarchs.

Listing Kuchma's greatest achievements, Yushchenko named economic decrees issued shortly after the promulgation of the country's constitution in 1996; the conclusion of a treaty on friendship and cooperation with Russia; and Kuchma's decision not to run for a third term.

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The humble advocate

The passing away of Eugene Harasymiw is a great loss not only to the Ukrainian Orthodox community, not only to the Edmonton Ukrainian community — but to the Ukrainian community right across Canada.

Because Eugene worked for and on behalf of Ukrainian Canadians right across the country and championed issues that affected our community right across the country.

A hard and tireless worker within the community, Eugene was a long time member of the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League (USRL), the lay organization of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada and served at various posts on all levels within that organization. He served on his own Parish Board and on the boards of St. John's Institute as well as St. Andrew's College. He also spearheaded the Children of Chornobyl campaign following that disaster in 1986, and served as auditor for the Shevchenko Foundation for the past six years. He also served the umbrella Ukrainian Canadian Congress and held office in, among many others: the Alberta Provincial Council and Edmonton local branch of the UCC. He was one of the founding members of the UCC's National Justice Committee.

But Eugene was more than just an activist within the Ukrainian community — he was a dedicated and outspoken advocate for the Community. He took up the advocate role wherever he saw injustice being perpetrated against the Ukrainian community in Canada. Unlike most lawyers, he did not do this for a fee, but *pro bono*, or in layman's terms, on a purely voluntary basis.

He got involved with the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association after the creation of the Deschenes Commission led to all kinds of outrageous claims about the "thousands" of "war criminals" the Ukrainian community in Canada was harbouring. He continued on with the campaign to obtain redress for the internment of Ukrainian Canadians during the First World War. But it was the totally unjust and thinly disguised with-hunt known as the Denaturalization and Deportation policy, to which he devoted his most undivided attention during his last few years.

Eugene was the first to draw attention to the very serious abuses of civil rights that are inherent in this policy, under which a person's citizenship can be taken away after 50 years on the mere probability that he lied upon coming to Canada even though nothing can be proven because all of the files from that period have been destroyed. What's more this policy is being used to unjustly brand people as "alleged Nazi war criminals", even though they are not charged with any crime whatsoever — let alone a war crime.

Because of the grossly distorted way this issue is being presented in the mainstream media, this was not a popular cause to take up. But Eugene doggedly pursued this matter, speaking out at any opportunity he could in order to painstakingly point out what was really happening and why what was being presented to the public at large was, in effect, a lie. It was precisely because of his determined efforts that many in our community became aware of what was really happening and thus began to add their voices.

In his dying days Eugene was preparing a book related to this issue. This volume should be completed as a tribute to his efforts and a continuation of his legacy.

Though he was outspoken whenever he challenged injustice, ignorance, or apathy, Eugene was very self-effacing and humble when it came to his own efforts. Yet he always praised the work that others did.

When it comes to advocates, Eugene was a most humble one — but, at the same time — a most effective one.

His shoes will be impossible to fill.

May his memory remain eternal!

What has not been accomplished in Canada's Ukraine agenda

Commentary

By Oksana Bashuk Hepburn

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress has put out a Briefing Document on Canada Ukraine relations — please ask them what that means; I certainly know what it means in a government context and what has been issued to the general public neither briefs the community is not quite what it calls itself.

One of its biggest achievements, according to the paper, is sending election observers to Ukraine. Take note that these are short term observers staying a matter of days rather than weeks or months. Which means that by the time they get over the jetlag, arrive at their designated areas — some as far as Zakarpattya or Kerch, a day's travel from Kyiv — find the polling station and begin differentiating between voters, scrutineers, media, etc., their effectiveness will be somewhat curtailed. And they have to pay their own way for this good deed. Am I saying they should not be there? Not at all; here's my point.

Canada has sent some 13 long-term observers to work under the OSCE auspices for an approximate 3 months duration. Among these is only one Ukrainian name, perhaps two. Why were credible Ukrainian Canadian candidates with political science credentials and former elections monitoring experience bypassed? Who is making these decisions and where was the UCC insisting on having more from our community in the mix?

To my mind the UCC "briefing" to the Foreign Affairs Minister should have been just that: brief, forceful and to the point. UCC should have insisted that qualified members of our community should have dominated the group monitoring Ukraine's elections at the official country level; not as an add-on, at their expense. In Canada's dealing with Ukraine we need to be in the front lines, be heard, and we need to insist that our views are taken into account. That is formulating and influencing policy and deliverables; everything else is a photo op and smoke and mirrors without any longer term consequences.

We're too smart to be fooled by such shenanigans in Canada's main stream politics and we mustn't put up with this nonsense any longer in our own community. Going to Ukraine's elections as long term observers and developing a Canada Ukraine policy strategy falls into the category of being credible players in the political game in Ottawa; and having influence. The UCC election observer mission to Ukraine is ok, but it's not that. It's a placebo.

And regrettably, in the same vain, the UCC Briefing paper is not much of a foreign policy input either. It's a document put out to placate the UCC Congress attendees: look what we've accomplished. Smoke and mirrors once again as it has been for the last six years. While foreign policy reviews were taking place in Ottawa, UCC was most noticeable by its silence.

But there is hope. The Canadian government is undergoing another a major foreign policy review. It's mandatory that UCC have a thought-out input. The new UCC president cannot be allowed to lead by silence; and we must be ever vigilant and speak out on matters that concern us.

Oksana Bashuk Hepburn is President of Ukraine-Canada Relations Inc. (U-CAN) and Past National President of the Ukrainian Canadian Professional Business Federation (UCPBF).

The Rise and 'Fall' of Yevhen Marchuk

Analysis

By Roman Kupchinsky

(RFE/RL)—Yevhen Kyrylovych Marchuk, the recently fired Ukrainian defense minister is, without a doubt, one of the most interesting and enduring personalities in the Ukrainian political spectrum. He is also one of the most controversial and mysterious figures in a land where conspiracy theories often replace hard news in the media.

He is also a very adept operator. As a young Soviet KGB officer who spoke fluent English and German, Marchuk's dream of being posted abroad as an agent did not pan out and instead he was assigned to work with Ukrainian dissidents. He did his job so well that after Ukraine declared independence these former dissidents, now members of parliament, all voted in favor of him becoming the head of Ukraine's newly formed Security Service, the SBU.

Marchuk was born in the village of Dolynivka in the Kirovohrad region of Ukraine in 1941 and graduated in 1963 from the Kirovohrad Pedagogical Institute. After a brief stint as a teacher of Ukrainian language and literature in Poltava, he joined the Committee for State Security, the KGB, and by 1990 was promoted to the post of first deputy chairman of the Ukrainian KGB. From 1991-1994, during the presidency of Leonid Kravchuk, he served as the head of the SBU. This was followed by a number of different postings, including a short term as prime minister (June 1995-May 1996), after which he was elected to parliament where he joined the Ukrainian Social-Democratic (united) faction. In 1999 he ran against Leonid Kuchma for president and, after withdrawing from the race, Kuchma, as payback for Marchuk's support, appointed him head of the National Security and Defense Council. On June 25, 2003, he was appointed by Kuchma as defense minister. On Sept. 22, 2004, he was fired.

In his 13-year career in an independent Ukraine, Marchuk has been involved in many controversial events. While a candidate for president in the 1999 elections, he authored a book titled "Five Years of the Ukrainian Tragedy," which was a severe indictment of the "corrupt regime of Leonid Kuchma." Despite his harsh words for Kuchma, Marchuk agreed to serve the re-elected president as national security and defense head. This astonished many of his supporters who could not understand how he was able to work for a man whom he had criticized so roundly only a few months earlier.

Cont. on P. 12

Ukrainian Canadian observers discriminated against, reader charges

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Is the Canadian government discriminating against its own citizens who are of Ukrainian descent? This may be so. Although international observers for elections work in country under the auspices of the OSCE it is individual countries themselves who decide who will be the Long Term and Short Term observers.

Unlike in previous elections, this year anybody wishing to be an observer had to register their CV on www.canadem.ca <http://www.canadem.ca/> . I went ahead and did this one year ago.

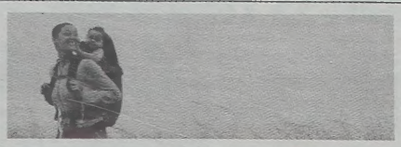
Nevertheless, both myself and at least two others have not been included as Short Term Observers from Canada. I have experience as a Long Term Observer in the 1998 and 2002 Ukrainian parliamentary elections, the first from Britain and the second from Canada. Martha Dyczok, Professor at Western Ontario University and an expert on Ukraine's media, was also not included. A third person from Toronto who has long worked closely with Ukraine on social projects was also not included as a Short Term Observer.

Only 1 of the 15 Long Term Observers from Canada is of Ukrainian descent! Similarly, only 2 or 3 of the 45 chosen by the Canadian authorities to be Short Term Observers are of Ukrainian descent. This is pitifully small.

At an Oct. 1 meeting in Winnipeg between the Ukrainian Canadian Committee and the Minister of Foreign Affairs this sad state of affairs was raised by UCC. The Minister replied that he was "surprised" at how so few Ukrainian Canadians were included as Long or Short Term Observers in this years Ukrainian elections. The decision that has led to the minimization of the Canadian-Ukrainian presence in Canada's contribution to the OSCE election mission was taken by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Canadian International Development Agency.

Should not the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and Ukrainian Canadians be demanding a full investigation into blatant ethnic discrimination against Canadian citizens of Ukrainian descent?

Taras Kuzio



Better Health Care for Canadians: A 10-year plan

De meilleurs soins de santé pour les Canadiens : plan d'action sur 10 ans

Working together, the Prime Minister, Premiers and Territorial leaders have signed a 10-year in new federal funding, that will lead to better health care for Canadians.

Better Health Care

☑ **Reduce waiting times**
- Improve access so that Canadians don't wait as long for key tests, treatments and surgeries

☑ **More Doctors, Nurses and other Health Professionals**
- Plans to train and hire more health professionals while also developing faster accreditation for foreign-trained health professionals

☑ **Expand home care**
- Provide better support for people being cared for or recovering at home

☑ **Improve access to family and community care**
- Increase 24/7 access to doctors, nurses and other health professionals

☑ **Better Access to Needed Medicines**
- A commitment to manage drug costs and ensure that no family is forced to choose between needed medicines and financial ruin

☑ **Improved Aboriginal Health**
- New investments and better planning to close the gap between Aboriginals and other Canadians in terms of health

Shorter Waiting Times

The federal, provincial and territorial governments have committed to report clearly on the progress we are making in health care and, for the first time will report on progress in reducing waiting times.

☑ **Comparable indicators ... so we can measure**
- Federal, provincial and territorial governments will use comparable information to report their progress in improving access to doctors, and to diagnostic and treatment procedures

☑ **Benchmarks ... so we know what we are striving for**
- Federal, provincial and territorial governments will set medically acceptable waiting times – based on advice from medical experts – starting with cancer, heart disease, diagnostic imaging, joint replacement, and sight restoration

☑ **Targets ... to drive change**
- Provincial and territorial governments will set their own targets and report annually to citizens on progress in reducing waiting times

Canadians will see for themselves where their health care money is going and how it is making a difference.

Le premier ministre du Canada et les premiers ministres provinciaux et territoriaux ont de
d'action décennal qui, grâce notamment à un nouvel investissement fédéral de 41 millards de dollars, consolidera les soins de santé pour tous les Canadiens.

De meilleurs soins de santé :

☑ **réduction des temps d'attente**
- améliorer l'accès pour que les Canadiens obtiennent plus vite les tests cruciaux, les traitements et les chirurgies essentiels

☑ **davantage de médecins, d'infirmières et d'autres professionnels de la santé**
- élaborer des plans plus former et recruter davantage de professionnels de la santé, et accréditer plus rapidement ceux formés à l'étranger

☑ **élargissement des soins à domicile**
- améliorer le soutien aux personnes soignées ou en convalescence à domicile

☑ **meilleur accès aux services de santé à la famille et communautaires**
- augmenter l'accès en tout temps à des médecins, infirmières et autres professionnels de la santé

☑ **meilleur accès aux médicaments essentiels**
- gérer les coûts des médicaments afin qu'aucune famille n'ait à choisir entre les médicaments et la déchéance financière

☑ **amélioration de la santé des Autochtones**
- investir de nouveaux fonds et mieux planifier pour combler l'écart entre les soins de santé offerts aux Autochtones et aux autres Canadiens

Réduction des temps d'attente :

Les gouvernements fédéral, provinciaux et territoriaux ont convenu de rendre compte des progrès accomplis dans le domaine de la santé et, pour la première fois, dans la réduction des temps d'attente.

☑ **des indicateurs comparables... pour mesurer les progrès**
- les gouvernements fédéral, provinciaux et territoriaux utiliseront des indicateurs comparables pour rendre compte de l'amélioration de l'accès aux médecins, aux services de diagnostic et aux traitements

☑ **des jalons... pour préciser le but visé**
- les gouvernements fédéral, provinciaux et territoriaux établiront des temps d'attente médicalement acceptables – fondés sur l'avis d'experts – d'abord dans les domaines du cancer, des maladies du cœur, de l'imagerie diagnostique, des remplacements articulaires et de la restauration de la vue

☑ **des objectifs... pour susciter le changement**
- chaque gouvernement provincial et territorial établira ses propres objectifs pour les temps d'attente et rendra compte annuellement aux citoyens des progrès réalisés

Les Canadiens pourront constater à quoi sert leur argent affecté aux soins de santé et les résultats déterminants qu'il produit.

To obtain a copy of "The 2004 Health Care 10-Year Action Plan at a Glance", call **1 800 O-Canada** (1 800 622-6232) or, to see it on the web, click **www.canada.gc.ca/healthplan**.

Pour obtenir un exemplaire du document « Aperçu du plan d'action décennal sur les soins de santé 2 composez le **1 800 O-Canada** (1 800 622-6232). Vous pouvez aussi le consulter sur Internet à **www.canada.gc.ca/plansante**.

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Canada

Canada strength is its diversity, keynote speaker says

(RFE/RL)—Canada is a nation that was built and survives as a nation because of its cultural strength, said the keynote speaker at the UCC Congress, Oct. 2.

"And that strength is not derived from a constitution or an edict but from a reality. A reality that was formed in the thousands of halls, reading centres and cultural clubs that make up this nation. Canada is not one big folk festival or performance. Its very essence can be found in the diverse people that make up this nation. These roots and that diversity allow it to exist as an independent country beside the largest cultural and economic power in the world. I don't know of many places on the globe that a person could live in an environment where, when asked, you could proudly say I am a Ukrainian or a Jew or Portuguese or Filipino and be seen as a Canadian," said Manitoba Health Minister Dave Chomiak in the keynote address read on his behalf by Winnipeg Burrows MLA Rev. Doug Martindale at the UCC National Congress banquet.

Chomiak was unable to attend the banquet personally because of an illness in his family. Martindale, who read the speech on his behalf, is the MLA who introduced the Private Member's Bill which made Manitoba the first — and to date only — province in Canada to officially establish a day for the commemoration of the 1932-33 Famine-Genocide in Ukraine.

Martindale also noted that he will try to get a resolution passed on the internment of Ukrainian Canadians during World War I.

"This is an important issue in the Ukrainian community and there is a need for restitution, historical plaques and recognition of the historical injustice. I think I illustrate that one does not need to be Ukrainian to be a friend of and advocate for the Ukrainian community," he said.

UCC Convention

Doug Martindale delivering the keynote address for Manitoba Health Minister Dave Chomiak.

Chomiak closed with three thoughts, the first that Canadians have a special bond to Ukraine, and all of our work both government and non-governmental ought to recognize this as a priority.

"Second, we must never lose sight of the unique factors of Canada's existence. Tolerance and freedom and diversity can co-exist and this country is proof of that fact.

"Finally, I often tell my aboriginal friends who often live in very difficult circumstances that we have words in Ukrainian that speak to this. "Nashi liudy" applies to all. Just as we Ukrainians have been able to overcome the stereotype that I mentioned earlier in my comments about the newspaper article in the Manitoba Free Press so we too can help our aboriginal brothers and sisters to overcome their stereotypes."

The article Chomiak earlier referred to described Ukrainians as people who "lived many families together in small crowded homes. They spoke a strange language. They ate different foods. They were involved in drunken parties, etc."

"I asked my fellow students at St. Paul's College who they thought the story was about. They all thought it was about First Nations people. It wasn't. It was describing a people known as Ruthenians or Ukrainians.

"This story illustrates several points. One, that as a tolerant and caring a society as we are, we still must work at these issues. Second, that today in Canada all of us both new immigrants and old should be very conscious of our past. Third, if we do not learn from history then we will be bound to repeat it," he said.

UCC Ontario President new National head

(UkrNews)—The new President of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress has pledged to work on implementing key area of the Visions for the future recommendations coming out of the committee she chaired.

Orysia Sushko told the Congress she will utilize all resources in order to develop a plan which will be useful for the UCC's and its contacts with the community and noted the need to create a body which would look after cultural aspects, since that is "our face before the general Canadian community".

She also said "we need to find a road which will intelligently unite our love and dedication to Canada and at the same time to Ukraine."

"As citizens of Ukrainian origin, the fate of Ukraine, the fate of Ukraine, the land of our ancestors lies close to the heart and we need to place all our resources to ensure that Ukraine consolidates its independence," Sushko noted.

Sushko is the President of the Ontario Provincial Council, Immediate Past President of the Hamilton UCC Branch, Past Chair of the National Communications Committee and Past president UCC, Women's Council (Hamilton).

She has a considerable history of activity within the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada including service as a Consistory Board member 1985-1995, (re-elected for another 5 year term in 2000), coordination of the world-wide celebration of 1000 years of Christianity held at Copps Coliseum in Hamilton in 1988 (8000 participants). She has been active member of St. Vladimir's Cathedral in Hamilton a teacher, William Sarchuk Ukrainian School in Hamilton (27 years), Youth choir director (27 years), Director (1 year) and CYMK advisor for more than 15 years at the local, provincial and national levels.

Within the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada, she has been editor-in-chief of the Association's journal *Promin* since 1997, past national president (1993-1997), past executive member (1963-1967) when she presented the UWAC brief to the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, past president of the UWAC Eastern Executive and past president of its local branch UWAC

She is a recipient of the Taras Shevchenko Medal, the Community Service Award, Hamilton & District Multicultural Council; the Convention Ambassador Award, City of Hamilton; the Volunteer Service Award, Ontario Ministry of Citizenship; the Award of Excellence, Ukrainian Self-Reliance League of Canada and the Metropolitan's Award, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada.

UCC on government to end D & D

Cont. from P. 1

though we refuse to give up. But as a result, the response from the community is that much more applaudable — because not only are volunteers committing their time and energy, but substantial financial resources," she said.

Several other issues of concern were Immigration, Denaturalization and Deportation (D & D) and Internment Redress.

The Congress passed a resolution calling upon government to end D & D, return to the criminal court process in prosecuting alleged war criminals, and to amend the Citizenship Act "to prevent arbitrary Government action which can uproot an individual for suspicion of war crimes unless his or her guilt is fairly established by Canadian standards of justice."

The Immigration resolution called upon the Government of Canada "to meet with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress to develop an effective and reasonable program that would dramatically increase the number of immigrants from Ukraine."

The Internment Resolution stated that the UCC "hereby communicates its deep disappointment over the lack of a timely and honourable resolution of the Ukrainian Canadian community's calls for recognition, restitution and reconciliation, as detailed in the Terms of a Proposed Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Ukrainian Canadian Community presented to the Government of Canada on December 2, 2002; and calls upon the Government of Canada, to immediately resume settlement negotiations with the Ukrainian Canadian community."

Other resolutions directed at the Government of Canada included a call to reconsider the proposed cuts to Radio Canada International and accord it the support it requires for continued growth and development, and to sensitize the government and relevant federal agencies to the issue of trafficking of persons, especially women and children and support projects initiated within the Ukrainian community.

A resolution coming out of the Government Relations workshop called upon the UCC to "identify Canadian legislators on all levels of government who are of Ukrainian origin or have other ties to the Ukrainian community and work on developing their awareness of issues of concerns to the Ukrainian community and prepare issue/briefing notes on a regular basis that can be used by the Provincial/local UCC's or member organizations in providing information to legislators about issues of concern to the Ukrainian community."

Wrzesnewskyj and liberal colleague Walt Lastiwka (St. Catherines) spent two days at the Congress and urged community representatives to become politically active.

Lastiwka gave some practical hints on how to communicate with government ministers and MPs and urged the community to "speak with one voice".

Wrzesnewskyj said Ukrainian Canadians were grossly underrepresented in Parliament, though he erroneously referred to himself and Lastiwka as the only Ukrainian Canadian MPs (Ukrainian News is currently surveying various MPs who could be of Ukrainian origin) and urged the community to elect more.

He also briefed UCC delegates on the immigration situation and the "targets" set by the department for immigration from Ukraine (See Ukrainian News, September 15-28, 2004).

The first day's sessions included a report by outgoing President Czolij the report of the Constitutional Commission the Financial Report by Treasurer Dr. Roman Yereniuk, the report of the UCC Board of Auditors (Anna Wach, Chair), and the Triennial Report of the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras, by its President, Andrew Hladyshevsky.

To increase its visibility, the Foundation has tried to proclaim its connection with Taras Shevchenko with many more initiatives, including commemorative bookmarks, commissioning these original works from Ukrainian Canadian artists, and initiating the Kobzar Literary Award.

In the spring of 2003, the Shevchenko Foundation undertook to celebrate the 80-year legacy of Vasile Avramenko by establishing a national committee, called the Avramenko Fund National Committee and it has set as its goal to raise $1.0 Million, which will be held in a designated fund within the Shevchenko Foundation to enable the Ukrainian dance community to achieve its objectives.

The opening day closed with the official of an exhibit commemorating the career of Avramenko.

The second day opened with the report of the building committee followed by that of the Vision Quest committee featuring recommendations gleamed from the results of the community dialogue initiated during the XX Congress and continued throughout the past three years.

Among the recommendations was the engagement of a professional Communications Officer, the establishment of a Youth Secretariat within the structure of national UCC, and the establishment of libraries and resource centres for both teachers and students.

The report also stated that the UCC requires conscientious, visible "leaders" who are open to change and to new ideas, and a database listing experts in the various areas along with directories of available resources.

To create a sense of community the stated the UCC must be inclusive and welcoming and work together in common areas of interest and do so cooperatively with the Ukrainian organizations and our Churches, it added.

On relations with Ukraine it urged the UCC to encourage and facilitate Ukrainian Canadian organizations and individuals in their work vis a vis Ukraine, in order to promote the development of friendly and mutually beneficial relations between Canada and Ukraine.

In the cultural field recommended the development programming for the preservation of cultural heritage, a directory of cultural groups, more visibility for cultural groups, educational programming in the various cultural spheres of activity and a cultural committee at the national level.

Several recommendations to meet the needs of new immigrants included orientation and settlement services, a "welcome wagon" service, assistance in social integration and to bridge gaps between new immigrants and current Ukrainian community.

A resolution was adopted to accept these recommendation. Several other resolutions dealt with community development, a key issue being education and internal UCC matters.

Many of the resolutions came out of the round table discussions held over the second and third days.

Topics included in the roundtable discussions were: Government Relations, Canada-Ukraine relations, Education, Justice Issues, Branches and Provincial Councils, Trafficking in Women and Welcoming the 4th Wave of Immigration.

The report of the Canada Ukraine Foundation was presented during the Day 2 luncheon.

Its Chair, Dr. Ostap Hawaleshka said that the Board felt that It has fulfilled Its mandate

CUF has received, managed and been able to direct nearly C$800,000 to activities of interest to Ukraine. And the total permanent funds available to and managed by CUF has passed $200,000. Most of this sum is allocated to specific projects and "designated funds" managed by CUF. The total value of aid funds directed to projects of Ukrainian interest during the four-year period of the present administration of CUF approaches $800,000.

"Now that a reasonably successful track record has been achieved, CUF has finally reached the point in its life where actual fundraising and solicitation of grants can begin in earnest. Success in this area will allow CUF to initiate aid projects to Ukraine on its own volition, in line with perceived Ukrainian needs," he said.

The third day of the Congress consisted of church services, wreath layings at the Shevchenko Monument and the monument to the victims of the Famine/Genocide, followed by the last plenary session.

That included the report of the resolutions committee, the nominating committee and the installation of the new president.

More in the next issue of Ukrainian News

Front Row, Left to Right: Luba Kuc, Doris Lychak, Mary Necyk, Olya Savaryn, Dorianne Martyniuk (for Tekla Tkaczyk); Back Row, Left to Right: Volodymyr Amiot, Mykola Vorotylenko, Lubomyr Pastuszenko, Harry Prockiw, Mack Skoreyko.

Ten community volunteers honoured with Hetman Awards

(UkrNews)—Ten Ukrainian community activists were recognized for their volunteer contributions to the community at Hetman Awards banquet, held at the Ukrainian Youth Unity Centre in Edmonton, Oct. 7.

"You are the people our community depends on for our development and for our blossoming. We look forward to what you do and what you contribute," said Alberta Community Development Minister Gene Zwozdesky in bringing greetings from the province.

"Without your sincere volunteer efforts our community would not be where it is at," he added.

Receiving the award in the Youth category was Volodymyr Amiot, who currently attends the University of Calgary, Faculty of Medicine. He has held various executive positions of Ukrainian Orthodox youth (CYMK) including Regional Coordinator for Alberta and is the recipient of U of C Chancellor's club Scholarship, Full Alexander Rutherford Scholarship, premier's citizenship Award for academic ability, leadership, community service and volunteer work and the Governor General's Bronze medal.

In the Adult category President Mykola Vorotylenko was awarded. He first immigrated to Edmonton in 1998, immediately became active in the Ukrainian Community and joined the Ukrainian National Federation. As President of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Edmonton Branch since 2001, he has organized celebrations and commemorations for Ukraine's Independence Day, Ukraine's Famine/Genocide Memorial, and Taras Shevchenko Concerts, established an office, and initiated the organization of Ukrainian Sports Association of Edmonton.

There were seven awardees in the Senior category.

Luba Kuc has researched traditional folk arts such as costumes, embroidery, weaving, and pysanky in Ukraine and spent hundreds of hours over a 35 year period teaching parents and dancers to embroider and make Ukrainian regional costumes. She has presented workshops throughout western Canada on Ukrainian Folk Art, floral painting on wood and dough art, gave workshops on writing pysanky for children in bilingual schools and for 25 years helped with the Ukrainian Pavilion for Heritage Days. She has been a member of Ukrainian Women's Organization for 40 years and President for eight terms.

Doris Lychak has been a member of St. Josaphat Cathedral Parish for the past 27 years, in numerous voluntary roles including President. She is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Seniors' Residence Verkhovyna, coordinator of Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox Women's Food Kiosks for Edmonton Heritage Days and for Festival '88, was President of the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada (UCWLC), St. Josaphat's Parish Branch for seven different terms ands was the First Woman President of Eparchial Ukrainian Catholic Council (Centralia).

Mary Necyk has held various executive positions on the UCWLC at Branch, Eparchial and National levels, a member of St. Basil's Parish for over 35 years, member of the church choir for 23 years, past member of the Northern Alberta Heritage Languages Association (NAHLA) Board of Directors and administered UCWLC Adult Ukrainian Classes for 19 years, has served as Food Chair for Ukrainian Pavilion for Heritage Days for 6 years and was co-editor of book "Windows of Faith" for St. Basil's 50th Anniversary.

Lubomyr Pastuszenko is a founding and current member of Dnipro Choir, a member of Bandurist Chorus, Edmonton Ukrainian Male Chorus, and St. Josaphat Cathedral Church Choir, "Kashtany singers" from 1970-1998 and St. Michael's Board of Governors since 1975. He served as Vice Chair of St. Josaphat's Cathedral Church Council in 1974 and 1975

Harry Prockiw has held the President and Treasurer positions in the Ukrainian Youth Association (CYM) - Edmonton Branch, organized youth summer camps and remained as camp director for many years, been active on the Board of Directors of the Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex and is a longtime member of the League of Ukrainian Canadians-Edmonton Branch

Olya Savaryn has held executive positions in Plast, UCWLC, Alberta Ukrainian Commemorative Society, UCC - Edmonton and has been a member of Dnipro choir for over 30 years. She has also been a member of Bishop Budka Charitable Society, Friends of Ukrainian Village Society, and Ukrainian Professionals and Business Club of Edmonton and transmitted Ukrainian music, songs and interviews biweekly on CKUA Radio for over 20 years

Mack Skoreyko, a member of St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Parish since 1966, and has held various executive positions in St. John's Fraternal Society and his Parish Board and the Men's Club. He is also a ember of Special committee for establishment of a Ukrainian Consulate in Edmonton and has been active with Ukrainian Canadian Social Services for seven years

A Posthumous Award for Tekla Tkaczyk was accepted by he granddaughter Dorianne Martyniuk

Tkaczyk has held various executive positions in Orthodox youth and adult organizations in Saskatchewan and Alberta, organized seniors' choirs, sewed their costumes, participated in festivals, and sang in nursing homes. She also sewed vestments for priests and altar boys and designed and sewed costumes for Shumka Dancers, complete wedding party ensembles, and for Alberta and Canadian figure skaters.

The awards are presented by the UCC – Alberta Provincial Council.

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ВИСТАВКА КИЛИМІВ
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12:00 - 4:00 p.m.
SUN. NOVEMBER 7TH, 2004
1:00 - 4:30 p.m.
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Український американець став 3–ою найвпливовішою людиною в ЦРУ

Сергій Куделя, *Радіо Свобода*

Новий директор Центрального розвідувального управління США Портер Ґосс призначив цього понеділка своїм старшим радником Михайла Костіва – американця українського походження. До останнього часу Костів працював у комітеті з питань розвідки Палати Представників Конгресу США, який очолював тоді ще конґресмен від штату Флорида Ґосс. Після відставки Джорджа Тенета та затвердження Ґосса новим директором ЦРУ Костів отримав пропозицію стати виконавчим директором Управління. Вперше американець українського походження міг стати третьою особою в американській розвідці. Однак цьому перешкодила одна-єдина публікація в газеті «Вашинґтон Пост»…

Михайло Костів належить до третьої хвилі української еміграції, яка прибула до Сполучених Штатів після Другої Світової війни. Останні сімнадцять років він живе поблизу Вашинґтона, де працював головним лобістом другої за розмірами нафтової компанії США – «Шеврон Тексако». Серед української громади американської столиці ім'я Костіва знають, але, за словами місцевих жителів, він не відзначався особливою громадською активністю в діаспорі.

В Україні Костів був принаймні двічі – як спостерігач на парламентських та президентських виборах 1994 року. Тоді він представляв Міжнародний Республіканський Інститут. І зараз він залишається заступником голови інституту – сенатора Джона МакКейна.

Однак, незважаючи на значні кар'єрні здобутки Михайла Костіва, для провідників українських діаспорних організацій він залишався людиною-загадкою. І тому для багатьох у діаспорі несподіваним стало повідомлення, що новий глава ЦРУ запропонував його минулої п'ятниці на посаду виконавчого директора Управління, – як і той факт, що впродовж сімдесятих років Костів працював офіцером американської розвідки.

Посада виконавчого директора вважається третьою за важливістю у кадровій ієрархії ЦРУ. Отримавши її, Костів був би відповідальний за розподіл бюджету, фінансову та кадрову політику розвідки. Однак через два дні після оголошення його кандидатури в авторитетній газеті «Вашинґтон Пост» з'явилося повідомлення, що двадцять три роки тому Костіва затримала поліція за дрібну крадіжку. За інформацією газети, він намагався винести з крамниці пакунок бекону, який коштував трохи більше як два долари.

На момент затримання Костів уже десять років працював в американській розвідці. Внаслідок цього інциденту він був тимчасово усунений від роботи. А через декілька тижнів Костів написав заяву з проханням про відставку. В обмін на неї, за твердженням «Вашинґтон Пост», ЦРУ домоглося зняття обвинувачень проти нього та знищення документальних підтверджень злочину. Після цього Костів успішно продовжив свою кар'єру вже в нафтовій корпорації. А про його тодішній вчинок колишні співслужбовці згадали лише зараз, коли він отримав можливість повернутися до розвідувального управління.

Як пише газета, багато хто у ЦРУ виявився проти швидких кадрових змін, які намагається здійснити новопризначений директор розвідки. Тому компрометувальну для Костіва інформацію «злили» журналістам «Вашинґтон Пост». І її оприлюднення виявилося для Михайла Костіва фатальним.

Наступного дня після появи публікації, коли він мав уже офіційно стати виконавчим директором, Костів поширив заяву, в якій відмовився від цієї посади. У ній він пояснив своє рішення тим, що «висунені обвинувачення будуть лише відволікати директора ЦРУ від головного завдання – боротьби з тероризмом». Хоча Костів не визнав достовірність згаданих у публікації фактів зі свого далекого минулого, він вважає, що його рішення «відповідає інтересам Управління та всіх зацікавлених осіб».

Того ж дня директор ЦРУ Ґосс вирішив усе ж залишити Костіва поруч і призначив його своїм старшим радником.

Низка провідних організацій українців у Росії не хоче підтримувати Януковича

Мар'яна Драч, *Радіо Свобода*

Пристрасті довкола президентських виборів в Україні розгораються і в Росії. Там у розпалі підготовка до зібрання під назвою "З'їзд українських громадських організацій Росії." Він пройшов, 8-го жовтня, у престижному для російської столиці Колонному залі Будинку спілок. Але низка провідних організацій української діаспори Росії вже перед тим відмежувалися від проведення цього форуму.

Товариство "Славутич" створили 15 років тому, це одна з найстарших громадських організацій українців у Росії. Голова Ради товариства Василь Антоньєв розповів радіо "Свобода" , що він щиро здивувався, коли дізнався, що "Славутич" був першим у списку організацій, які проводять з'їзд у Москві 8-го жовтня. Антоньєв говорить, що це фальсифікація:

"То неправда. І ми там брати участі не будемо. Вони те роблять перед виборами в Україні. І це буде як політична акція. Вони хочуть це зробити, щоб якимось чином підтримати Януковича. Як так можна робити, вони ж громадяни, як правило, Росії? Підтримувати Януковича - то вже ніби Росія втручається у справи України".

Від з'їзду також відмежувалася низка інших провідних організацій української діаспори Росії. А саме - Федеральна національно-культурна автономія "Українці Росії," Об'єднання українців Росії, які складаються з понад 80 регіональних організацій. Не хочуть брати участі у форумі й Центр українців у Башкортостані "Кобзар", Об'єднання українців Москви. Вони вважають, що такий з'їзд викликаний "тимчасовими політично-кон'юнктурними міркуваннями і може завдати шкоди як російському українству, так і російсько-українським відносинам.

Говорить голова Об'єднання українців у Росії та федеральної автономії Олександр Руденко-Десняк:

"Наша організація є національно-культурною. Тобто, до нашої організації входять люди іноді достатньо різних політичних поглядів, їх об'єднує бажання зберегти свою національну ідентичність, свою національну культуру в умовах діаспори. Це не є політична партія.

Тому наша точка зору така: було б дуже добре, якби громадяни інших країн не втручалися у внутрішні справи України і не намагалися якимось чином впливати на перебіг там передвиборчих подій. В даному випадку, якщо брати до уваги, як усе це робилося, це річ абсолютно неприпустима".

Щоб з'ясувати, як саме готувався з'їзд у Москві, котрий, як очікули, висловив підтримку Віктору Януковичу, ми зателефонували до оргкомітету. Там спершу порадили дочекатися Миколу Луньова, голову Донецького земляцтва в Росії. Але поговорити з паном Луньовим нам так і не вдалося. Пояснили, що він дуже зайнятий.

На прохання, щоб інтерв'ю дав хтонебудь з оргкомітету, попросили сказати, що ж хоче дізнатися "Свобода."

Запитань було два. По-перше, яка головна мета з'їзду і хто з відомих політиків та громадських діячів братиме у ньому участь. А ще нас цікавило, як ініціатори форму ставляться до протесту авторитетних організацій української діаспори в Росії. Після тривалих консультацій ми почули таке:

"Значить, відповідь сформульована. Ми зараз у стані роботи і ми не готові давати коментарі" (переклад з російської).

Перший міжнародний конгрес "Трипільська цивілізація"

Богдана Костюк, *Радіо Свобода*

Перший міжнародний конгрес "Трипільська цивілізація", в якому взяли участь понад 70 науковців з 20 держав світу, закінчився у 8–го жовтня в Києві. На думку його організаторів, конгрес був першим багато в чому: вперше археологи та історики говорили саме про цивілізацію; вперше представили двотомну енциклопедію, присвячену Трипіллю. Вперше довели, що сліди трипільської культури знаходяться на території сучасних України, Молдови, Румунії, Болгарії та Туреччини.

На питання "Коли був створений цей світ?" давні шумери відповідали: "Коли люди почали запалювати вогнище і пекти хліб". На теренах сучасних України, Молдови і Румунії люди займалися хліборобством понад 7 тисяч років тому, у чому понад 130 років тому переконались археологи, які проводили розкопки давніх поселень поблизу українського селища Трипілля та румунського містечка Кукутені. Відтоді, поняття "Трипілля – Кукутені" уособлює першу землеробську цивілізацію Європи, про роль якої дискутували учасники нинішнього конгресу.

Історик за фахом, Ігор Денисюк нині працює у складі Комісії України у справах ЮНЕСКО, і у привітанні від імені керівництва ЮНЕСКО зазначив:

"Цивілізація Трипілля, яка процвітала на території сучасного Києва, України у період між четвертим – третім тисячоліттями до нашої ери, відкрита відомим археологом Вікентієм Хвойкою у 1893 році. На сьогодні в Україні знайдено понад 2 тисячі об'єктів, пов'язаних з культурою Трипільської цивілізації. Інформація про ту цивілізацію значно зросла, і ЮНЕСКО з великою зацікавленістю слідкує за такими знахідками. Ваша конференція приверне увагу до цієї стародавньої цивілізації, пролле світло на нові дослідження і надасть можливість поділитися знаннями у цій сфері".

Науковці упродовж трьох днів роботи конгресу оприлюднили чимало важливих нових відкриттів та ідей щодо місця і ролі цивілізації "Трипілля – Кукутені" для сучасної Європи.

Сорок років наукового життя віддав вивченню цієї цивілізації та її культури румунський професор Дан Монах:

"Дві ріки стали місцем зародження прадавньої цивілізації, і донині поміж двох цих річок : Дніпро і Дунай - археологи знаходять руїни поселень, чудові керамічні вироби, культові предмети. Знахідки свідчать: наші пращури дали поштовх для розвитку європейської цивілізації, і шкода, що Західна Європа цього не хоче визнавати. Адже цивілізація "Трипілля – Кукутені" і є тим джерелом, звідки походять побутові традиції, релігійні погляди, землеробські знання народів, чиї правнуки нині населяють Європу".

Куратор Музею історії Канади Кристофер Чак розповів, що студентом Варшавського університету він у 1960-ті роки брав участь у розкопках поблизу Києва. А два роки тому поїхав до Туреччини, де поруч з містом Трабзон археологи знайшли руїни населеного пункту, якому не менше 5 тисяч років і який за формою будівель, їхнім розташуванням і предметами культу (керамічними фігурками вагітних жінок) подібний до поселень Трипілля. Професор Чак стверджує, що давні трипільці "блукали світом" і цілком могли заснувати поселення на березі Чорного моря. Наступного літа до турецьких археологів мають намір долучитись українські, румунські та канадські колеги.

Професорка історії краківського Ягеллонського університету (Польща) Малжена Шмідт відчуває у собі "краплину трипільської крові":

"Для тієї доби, для цілої Європи то була найрозвиненіша цивілізація. Працюючи з українськими і румунськими колегами, ми виявили, що цивілізація "Трипілля – Кукутені" є місцем утворення протослов'янського етносу. Це культурний шок для багатьох західних науковців, які поки ще не зрозуміли, що ця цивілізація давніша від шумерської чи Вавилонської, що протослов'яни винайшли коло і побудували перші міста".

Пані Малжена вважає, що народи Центрально-Східної Європи мають продемонструвати світові свої історичні надбання.

З нею згоден науковець і видавець літератури про Трипілля, киянин Олександр Поліщук:

"Я думаю, що вони всі, пішовши у своєму подальшому розвитку, фактично всі вийшовши звідси і отримавши знання про це, що вони пішли звідси – вони це зрозуміють і сприймуть. Але їм це теж треба донести. Ми, українці, повинні пропагувати і видавати масовими тиражами ці речі, і це повинно перекладатись, представлятися на виставках міжнародних – на таких, як Франкфуртська виставка. Тоді це піде до Європи" .

В Україні неоднозначно ставляться до надбань цивілізації "Трипілля – Кукутені". Так, академік Петро Толочко відмовився брати участь у роботі конгресу. На його думку, представлена на конгресі трипільська кераміка з приватної колекції "ПЛАТАР" частково є підробленою, частково зібраною так званими "чорними археологами". Хоча більшість учасників конгресу з таким твердженням не погодились.

Склад Дільничної виборчої комісії в Торонто

Генеральне консульство України в Торонто повідомляє, що рішенням Центральної виборчої комісії України від 24 вересня затверджено склад дільничних виборчих комісій закордонних виборчих дільниць з виборів Президента України 31 жовтня.

Зокрема, цим рішенням затверджено склад Дільничної виборчої комісії виборчої дільниці № 42 при Генеральному консульстві України в місті Торонто:

Голова комісії – Давидов Олександр Анатолійович, 1968 р. н., освіта вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від Міністерства закордонних справ України.

Заступник голови комісії – Касянчук Сергій Володимирович, 1967 р. н., освіта вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від кандидата на пост Президента України Кінаха Анатолія Кириловича.

Секретар комісії – Якуб'як Ярина Яремівна, 1971 р. н., освіта вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від кандидата на пост Президента України Грабара Миколи Федоровича.

Члени комісії: Боднар Дар'я Олексіївна, 1979 р. н., освіта вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від Міністерства закордонних справ України; Бунча Володимир Антонович, 1959 р. н., освіта вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від Міністерства закордонних справ України; Вишневецька-Пинда Наталія Володимирівна, 1972 р. н., освіта вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від кандидата на пост Президента України Бродського Михайла Юрійовича; Лукіянець Леонід Борисович, 1978 р. н., освіта середня спеціальна, проживає в м. Торонто – від кандидата на пост Президента України Мороза Олександра Олександровича; Мережко Діана Василівна, 1939 р. н., освіта вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від Міністерства закордонних справ України; Паславський Володимир Олегович, 1982 р. н., освіта незакінчена вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від Міністерства закордонних справ України; Пинда Ярослав Іванович, 1973 р. н., освіта вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від кандидата на пост Президента України Кінаха Анатолія Кириловича; Романюк Олена Олександрівна, 1978 р. н., освіта вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від Міністерства закордонних справ України; Субтельний Богдан Ігорович, 1973 р. н., освіта вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від кандидата на пост Президента України Грабара Миколи Федоровича; Яцишин Тарас Іванович, 1976 р. н., освіта вища, проживає в м. Торонто – від кандидата на пост Президента України Бродського Михайла Юрійовича.

A world full of support for sick child

Donations swell as Ukrainian girl prepares for critical heart surgery

Oksana Oliynyk is back in Edmonton awaiting surgery to replace her damaged valves. This will be Oksana's fifth heart operation — her second in Canada. While her surgery is scheduled for Oct. 22, she is staying in Edmonton to be near the medical team at the Stollery Children's Hospital in case of cancellation. She is currently staying in Edmonton awaiting surgery. Below is a story that appeared in The Calgary Herald and the Edmonton Journal on Oct. 7.

Mario Toneguzzi, *Calgary Herald, October 7, 2004*

A 10-year-old Ukrainian girl will travel to Edmonton on Saturday (Oct. 10) prepare for much-needed heart surgery scheduled for Oct. 22.

Oksana Oliynyk, who came to Calgary in June from Ukraine, will need to have three heart-valve replacements done. The Medical Mercy Canada organization has so far raised close to $90,000 for the surgery and for her recovery.

Kathy Shuttleworth, of Medical Mercy Canada, said the young girl is traveling early to Edmonton and staying at a nurse's home, in the event there is a surgery cancellation that would allow her to have her operation earlier.

"She's doing fantastic. She's doing very well," said Shuttleworth.

The Oliynyk family is exploring the possibility of immigrating to Canada — in part so Oksana can have access to the medical attention she'll need in the future.

Her mother, Natalia, has a university degree and would like to teach in Canada. Officials have had preliminary discussions with a lawyer about pursuing the family's quest to move to this country. Oksana's father and two-year-old brother are in Ukraine while she receives medical attention in Alberta.

Two years ago in Edmonton, Oksana had a pacemaker and two heart valves placed in her body. After her operation, she returned to her home in Ukraine and had dental work done, but precautions were not taken and her heart became infected. Oksana returned to Calgary in June in need of another heart operation.

Medical Mercy Canada, a Calgary-based international organization that provides medical supplies and services to impoverished countries, led the effort to bring her here.

Doctors in Calgary and Edmonton have agreed to volunteer their time for the girl's treatment and surgery.

Natalia Oliynyk said she is anxious about her daughter having yet another surgery, but now that there is a definite date for the procedure, she is hopeful for her daughter's future.

Natalia said Oksana was extremely ill when she came to Calgary in June, but she has shown great progress in "strength, resilience and energy."

"Her appetite is good," said Natalia through an interpreter.

"Now she walks a lot. It's been a huge improvement. We want to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers and donations."

Monetary support has come from people in Montreal to Vancouver, from Alberta to Texas.

Fundraising continues for Oksana and donations can be sent to: Oksana Fund, c/o Medical Mercy Canada Society, Bankers Hall, P.O. Box 22151, Calgary, AB, T2P 4J5.

The organization is also holding a fundraising dinner with entertainment on Nov. 26 in Airdrie. Tickets are $30. For more information, call 226-0056.

Originally, doctors thought Oksana would have to remain in hospital for three weeks following her surgery, but she is so healthy now they believe her hospital stay will be about seven to 10 days barring any complications.

Her recovery time after she leaves hospital is expected to be about eight weeks.

Couple awarded for Holocaust bravery

Righteous Gentile certificate honours memory of pair who hid many Jews

By Sean Myers, *Calgary Herald, Oct. 4, 2004*

When the Second World War landed on the doorstep of Peter and Lydia Boyko on Sept. 19, 1941, with the Nazi invasion of the Ukrainian city Kyiv, it marked the beginning of more than two years of immense hardship.

But when Ophelia Zaitzev and her son Victor knocked on the couple's door a few weeks later, desperate to avoid being rounded up and shot with other Jews in the area, the Boykos didn't hesitate to help their friends by offering shelter.

For this act of courage, Israel's Holocaust Museum, Yad Vashem, has issued a Righteous Gentile certificate and medal to the Boykos, who have both died in the years since the war.

On Sunday (Oct. 3), the couple's daughter Nadia accepted the award on their behalf at the Calgary, Jewish Centre.

"My parents helped those people not for honour and not for rewards but because they couldn't act otherwise," a tearful Nadia Boyko said during the award ceremony, speaking in Russian translated by her son Alexander Tatarov.

Nadia Boyko, who turns 77 today, was 14 when the Nazis invaded her city. Her father, Peter, was a chartered accountant working for city hall and Ophelia Zaitzev was his doctor.

The Boykos hid the Zaitzevs in their basement for three days before moving them somewhere safer.

This was the first of many groups of local Jews who made their way to the Boykos' home, which became a living link to sanctuary.

In addition to the basement, Peter and Lydia hid many people in caves near the house, bringing food, clothing and wood to them daily until they could be moved somewhere safer.

At the time, Nadia says she simply thought they were people in need during the dark days of an occupation. It wasn't until her father's funeral in 1950, when friends and co-workers began talking of her parents' heroic acts, did Nadia discover the truth.

"My parents were terrified for themselves, for us, their children, and for the people they were hiding," Nadia said during her speech. "But my parents could not allow people to die."

Lydia Boyko died in 1987 at the age of 90.

Nadia moved to Calgary in 1997 to live with her son Alexander's family.

"She is a very strong person, but when she remembers she cries," said Alexander's wife, Valentyna.

"She is so proud of what her parents did."

Winnipeg trustee Yereniuk creates multicultural book awards

(UkrNews)—School Trustee Roman Yereniuk of the Winnipeg School Division has created special multicultural book awards for students of his school division, beginning in 2003.

The first awards were presented in June 2003 and June 2004 at the Graduation Ceremonies of 12 schools, including Sisler High School, St. John's High School, R.B. Russell High School, Andrew Mynarski VC Junior High, Ralph Brown School (this last school houses the Ukrainian Bilingual Program — grades I to VIII in the division), Strathcona, Luxton, Machray, Children of the Earth High School, Champlain, Inkster, and Isaac Newton. The next awards will be presented in June of 2005.

The idea for the multicultural awards was created when Yereniuk thought of ways to honour his 10 years of service as a school trustee (1989-1995 and 1998-2002). "The 10 years of work as a school trustee has been very gratifying so I wanted to give back to the schools and its students a little gift to mark the occasion." stated Yereniuk in a recent interview. "In addition, I believe that multiculturalism is a most identifiable trait of Canada and I wanted the students to live it in the classroom and in their community".

The criteria for the multicultural book awards for 2003 and 2004 included: 1. high scholastic standing, 2. interest and promotion of the Canadian ideals of multiculturalism in the school and 3. participation in some form of the multicultural arts in the school and/or community. Yereniuk added that "many students participate in dancing and singing groups in the various communities but he wanted also the winners to be the ambassadors of the spirit and ideals that multiculturalism stands for".

Latest CUPP interns arrive

(CUPP)—The 27 student Interns, participating in the 14th Annual CUPP Internship Program in the Canadian Parliament have arrived in Ottawa.

Their first week in the Capitol was devoted to security clearance, orientation, visits to the Universities, Ukrainian Embassy to register to vote in the Presidential elections and meeting the staff members of Members of Parliament.

Their Internship officially began on Oct. 4 when the 38th Parliament began its sitting.

Ukrainian co-ordinators are Olena Ovchynnikova from the University of Uman; Maryna Razinkova from Taras Shevchenko National Pedagogical University in Luhansk and Polina Dyakova from International Christian University in Kyiv.

For the first time, there are among the CUPP Interns, a representative of the Armenian-Ukrainian Diaspora and the Georgian-Ukrainian Diaspora.

Nearly half believe Yushchenko really poisoned

(Interfax-Ukraine)—Forty-six percent of Ukrainians believe someone has tried to poison presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko, while 10% believe that the candidate or his own staff organized his poisoning as a campaign PR exercise.

This is according to the results of an opinion poll conducted by the Ukrainian National Public Opinion Service Oct. 1-5.

An estimated 40.3% of the respondents said they are prepared to vote for Yushchenko, 34.6% favor Viktor Yanukovych, 9.71% favor Oleksandr Moroz, and 7.95% favor Pyotr Symonenko.

The poll shows that Yushchenko's rating has gone up 12% and Yanukovych's rating has gone up 18% from May 2004.

Rada probe inconclusive

(RFE/RL)—The ad hoc parliamentary commission for investigating an alleged poisoning of opposition presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko has failed to confirm that the Our Ukraine leader was deliberately poisoned, Ukrainian media reported on Oct. 7.

"[The commission's investigation] gives no grounds today to assert that there has been an attempt on the life of Viktor Yushchenko," lawmaker Volodymyr Sivkovych, head of the commission, said in the Verkhovna Rada on Oct. 7.

"[The investigation] also gives no grounds to say that Viktor Yushchenko's organism has not been influenced by some poison or other substance," Sivkovych added.

Deputy speaker Oleksandr Zinchenko read a statement — signed by Ukrainian doctor Mykola Korpan and Michael Zimpfer, director of the Rudolfinerhaus hospital in Vienna, which has been treating Yushchenko's mysterious illness — saying that Yushchenko may have been affected by a biological agent.

Medvedchuk denies plotting to disrupt election

(Ukrayinska Pravda/BBC Monitoring Service)—The head of the Ukrainian presidential administration, Viktor Medvedchuk, has dismissed allegations that he is plotting to disrupt the upcoming presidential election.

In an article posted on Oct. 4 on the pro-opposition web site Ukrayinska Pravda, Medvedchuk said the accusations were nothing more than "an act of provocation" by the opposition.

On Sept. 30, Ukrayinska Pravda published an article by reputed Kremlin adviser Stanislav Belkovskiy, in which he said that Medvedchuk had secured Putin's support for a scheme to disrupt the Oct. 31 election through violations.

Medvedchuk ridiculed Belkovskiy's statements, saying there is no way the analyst could have possibly learnt what Medvedchuk and Putin discussed at a recent meeting.

President Leonid Kuchma's chief of staff, however, did not reveal what the meeting was about.

He added that Belkovskiy seems to have been "hired out" by Russian emigre tycoon Boris Berezovskiy to Ukrainian opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko.

Russian-Directed Movie to Win Oscar for Ukraine?

(RIA Novosti)—Russian director Pavel Chukhrai's "A Driver for Vera" has got on the Oscar nominee list as best foreign picture, confirms the Academy Award Committee.

If it wins, the dreamt-of gold figurine will go to Ukraine, however, remarks the Moscow-based daily Izvestia.

Contending for an Oscar on Russia's behalf will be "The Night Watch", movie of the year, determined the Russian Academy Award Committee.

Ukraine has no such spectacular achievements to offer, and has done wisely to come out with the "Driver"-a well-made movie indicative of the entire post-Soviet filmmaking. Pavel Chukhrai was once an Oscar nominee, with his "Thief". Now Ukraine has an Oscar hope in reward for a quarter of production expenditures it assumed, to say nothing of Crimean shooting sites and top-notch actor Bohdan Stupka.

Though the "Driver" is a profoundly Russian film, Ukraine has every right to nominate it as co-production, acknowledges Pavel Chukhrai.

"I'd have got stuck with my 'Driver' if not for Ukraine," he said to Novosti.

Large-scale anti-American campaign planned in Ukraine

By Taras Kuzio

(Jamestown Foundation)—Since Oct. 1 representatives from the headquarters of Ukrainian opposition presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko have discovered over 150 tons of illegal election materials that are both anti-American and anti-Yushchenko. The find, estimated at 300 million items, is a critical opposition victory that has undermined a major anti-Yushchenko/anti-American operation intended to flood Ukraine with millions of anti-Yushchenko posters and leaflets during the last week of the election campaign.

The anti-American posters, with slogans such as "Yankee Go Home!" completely undermine Ukraine's rationale for providing the fourth-largest military force within the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq. They also reveal the schizophrenic nature of Ukrainian foreign policy. The U.S. Embassy in Kyiv issued a strongly worded condemnation of the use of portraits of President George W. Bush and American national symbols: "The use of pictures of U.S. politicians and the U.S. flag on political posters in Ukraine is absolutely unacceptable".

The materials testify to the apparent desperation of the authorities, which have been reduced to such radical strategies after their candidate, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, still trailed in the final weeks of the election campaign. The mass distribution of overtly hostile anti-American posters, reminiscent of the worst period of Soviet anti-Western propaganda, suggests that, "The authorities have come to realize that they will lose the elections," according to Yushchenko's election coalition. "This is the work of those who only yesterday called for the holding of a free presidential election campaign".

On Oct. 2, pro-Yushchenko parliamentary deputies from Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko bloc raced to a warehouse near Kyiv where they found 10 tons of A3-size anti-Yushchenko/anti-American posters and leaflets. The warehouse was leased to a private company, Zahray. Guards advised the deputies that they were expecting delivery of another 14 tons of posters allegedly from the company "Agro." However, the real printing house was Novyi Druk. Some of the material was also prepared in Slovakia and Hungary and smuggled across the border. The parliamentary deputies next traveled to Novyi Druk in Kyiv where they found another 5 million of the offensive posters as well as leaflets promoting Yanukovych's campaign.

Ukrainian election law requires that the name of the printer and the total number of items printed should be clearly stated so that the Central Election Commission (CEC) can track each candidate's spending. But based on this material, and numerous Yanukovych billboards around Ukraine, Yanukovych's team has far exceeded the10 million hryvnia (US$2 million) spending limit. The materials discovered in Kyiv alone are valued at "hundreds of millions of dollars," and many more had already been distributed throughout Ukraine.

Anti-Yushchenko poster

The poster scandal took a difficult turn when the parliamentary deputies identified the owner of Novyi Druk: Viacheslav Pustovoitenko, son of former Prime Minister Valeriy Pustovoitenko, the current head of the pro-presidential People's Democratic Party (NDP). When Valeriy Pustovoitenko alleged that two of the opposition deputies had beaten his son, they countered that he had attempted to physically block their entrance into Novyi Druk. Our Ukraine deputy Pavlo Kachur told parliament that the younger Pustovoitenko would be brought to justice for campaign violations. He also condemned the hypocrisy of the authorities who may declare their support for Ukraine's stability and sovereignty while, "in reality [they] are undertaking the political and social destabilization of Ukraine, dividing Ukraine, provoking inter-ethnic conflicts and propagating fascism".

The Yanukovych team has tried to deflect unwanted attention over the posters. On Oct. 4 two of the presidential candidates allied with Yanukovych, Oleksandr Bazyliuk of the Slavic Party and extreme right-winger Roman Kozak, were dispatched to the warehouse to claim the literature as theirs. But the stunt backfired as neither candidate could describe the materials they sought. Next, high-ranking Yanukovych supporters began making the bizarre claim that Yushchenko was himself behind the posters. Social Democratic United (SDPUo) parliamentary deputy Nestor Shufrych claimed that the entire volume of literature was a "provocation," as it had all been in reality printed by "the Viktor Yushchenko team". Stepan Havrysh, Yanukovych's representative to the CEC, claimed, "This is political PR, a provocation, which has as its aim to now direct attention to the repressed leader who represents the interests of the 'Strength of the People' bloc [i.e. Yushchenko]".

On Oct. 5, an anonymous tip led to the discovery of a large cache of anti-Yushchenko/anti-American literature in the National Exhibition Center (NEC). A room 100 by 60 meters in size was found to be full of materials awaiting distribution around Ukraine. Besides the negative literature, there were also large volumes of Yanukovych posters and posters for the "pseudo-candidates" supporting Yanukovych. More negative materials were found the next day at yet another NEC warehouse. The NEC directors claimed that the two warehouses had been rented to a commercial firm and that they did not know what was stored there.

The situation at the Exhibition Center became tense when Yushchenko's supporters from parliament were joined by pro-presidential deputies from the SDPUo and Yanukovych's Regions of Ukraine. As both sides hurled accusations, riot police blocked the arrival of more Yushchenko supporters and prevented them from moving the literature to a safer location. The deputy head of the CEC, Yaroslav Davydovych, arrived only long enough to say that he would report the issue to the remainder of the Commission.

Popular distrust in the impartiality of the authorities during the elections is at an all-time low. Yushchenko, who is being treated in a Vienna clinic, refused to meet with the Prosecutor-General, whom he accused of being unwilling to investigate his poisoning. His election team doubts that the CEC, the courts, or the Interior Ministry will undertake any legal action against those involved in printing 40 tons of illegal campaign materials. Yushchenko's team has nonetheless submitted the case to court, based on the argument that at least five articles in the criminal code and the constitution have been violated.

Kremlin goes for Yanukovych

By Jan Maksymiuk

(RFE/RL)—Oct. 8-10 Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych conducted his presidential election campaign in Moscow. On Oct. 8 Yanukovych attended a forum of Russia's Ukrainian Diaspora in Moscow, and the following day he and Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma met with Russian President Vladimir Putin for a well-publicized celebration of Putin's 52nd birthday. Both meetings were intended to unambiguously suggest to both Russian and Ukrainian television viewers that the Kremlin's sympathy in the Oct. 31 presidential ballot in Ukraine is with Yanukovych and no one else.

The Ukrainian Diaspora congress in Moscow on Oct. 8 was attended by more than 1,200 delegates from Ukrainian organizations in the Russian Federation. According to a 2002 census, there are nearly 3 million Ukrainians in Russia. It is not clear how many of them have Ukrainian citizenship and may vote in the Ukrainian elections on Oct. 31. But some signals suggest that it is a considerable number, and votes from Russia's Ukrainians may even be decisive for the anticipated tight race between Yanukovych and his main rival, Viktor Yushchenko. Ukrainian media reported in mid-September that more than 560,000 Ukrainian citizens living in Russia signed Yanukovych's presidential-candidate support lists.

Yanukovych told cheering delegates at the congress what they wanted to hear from him; namely, that he will seek to give Russian the official-language status in Ukraine and introduce dual citizenship. Yanukovych also promised that Ukraine under his leadership will not join NATO, even if Kyiv will continue to develop cooperation with the alliance.

The congress adopted a resolution urging Ukrainian citizens both in Russia and Ukraine to support Yanukovych as the only presidential candidate who is able "to unite our country and society" as well as one who "guarantees the maintenance of Ukraine's economic growth" [and] "good-neighborly relations with Russia." The congress — which was attended by top Russian officials, including Federation Council Chairman Sergei Mironov, Duma Deputy Chairman Sergei Baburin, presidential-administration chief Dmitrii Medvedev, and Moscow Mayor Yurii Luzhkov — was widely publicized by Russian and Ukrainian media.

The following day, before meeting with Putin, Yanukovych and his Russian counterpart Mikhail Fradkov worked on an economic component of the Kremlin's election support for the Ukrainian prime minister. In August, Moscow already made a significant concession to Kyiv by agreeing to cancel the value-added tax (VAT) on oil and gas exports to Ukraine. As of 1 January, VAT on Russian oil and gas exports will be collected according to the country-of-destination principle, which will contribute some US$800 million annually to Ukraine's budget.

Fradkov reportedly promised Yanukovych that both countries will soon sign a schedule for removing any restrictions on mutual free trade. Fradkov specified that "soon" means "after the Ukrainian presidential elections," thus hinting that such an accord hinges on their results. In particular, Russia is reportedly ready to lift quotas on Ukrainian exports of sugar as of 2007 and alcohol as of 2012.

In addition, Fradkov and Yanukovych reportedly agreed to introduce "simplified regulations" for crossing the Ukrainian-Russian border by their citizens as of Jan. 1. It is not clear what such a simplification may mean in practice, especially as in the wake of the hostage tragedy in Beslan, Moscow signaled that those regulations will be tightened and, as of 2005, all CIS citizens will be allowed into the Russian Federation only with foreign-travel passports.

However, the main display of the Kremlin's benevolence toward Yanukovych was reserved for the evening of Oct. 9, when he and Kuchma met with Putin in the Russian president's residence in Novo-Ogarevo near Moscow. "We will respect any choice by the Ukrainian people but, of course, we are not indifferent to it," "Vremya novostei" quoted Putin as saying. And Putin elaborated on which choice by the Ukrainian people would be closer to his heart. "The people of Ukraine should decide whether positive tendencies are consolidated in economic development," Putin said. "All that was laid down by President Kuchma [served as] the foundation for the development of Russian-Ukrainian relations. It is especially dear to us. The future of Russian-Ukrainian relations will depend on how the Ukrainian leadership builds its course [toward Russia]."

"Kommersant-Daily" reported that during the meeting with the Russian president, Yanukovych, in violation of protocol and for apparent media purposes, sat next to Putin rather than opposite him. "The sum does not change if its items change their places," Kuchma commented on the situation. "I hope so," Putin responded. "Mr. Putin wanted to say that Ukraine will not lose anything...if Mr. Yanukovych becomes its president," the daily explained this exchange in an article titled "Tuning a Successor."

The Rise and 'Fall' of Yevhen Marchuk

Cont. from P. 6

Marchuk has been vague when discussing this decision, as he tends to be when discussing any of his actions. Some versions allege that he took the job in order to prevent Kuchma from doing too much harm to the country. Others claim that he did so only in order to further his career.

When Marchuk took over the Security Council, the SBU came under the control of Leonid Derkach, one of Kuchma's colleagues from Dnipropetrovsk. By 2000 the SBU under its new chief once again became very active in domestic surveillance and "dirty tricks."

In November 2000, it became known that Kuchma's office had been secretly bugged by Major Mykola Melnychenko, an SBU officer serving in the presidential security detachment. The recorded conversations, some of which have been authenticated by the FBI and private Western audio laboratories but consistently denied by Kuchma, often featured Derkach briefing the president on the contents of illegal wiretaps and informants' reports about opposition politicians. By 2002, rumors began circulating in Kyiv that Marchuk was somehow involved in what came to be known as "The Tape Scandal." Despite numerous articles in the press speculating about his involvement, Marchuk has yet to reply to these charges.

In 2001-2002, Marchuk became the target of an unrelenting series of articles attacking him for allegedly profiting from illegal arms sales on a website controlled by Andriy Derkach, the son of Leonid Derkach. Marchuk denied the charges and accused the younger Derkach of involvement in shady schemes in the energy business. This controversy still simmers on some Ukrainian websites.

As head of the National Security and Defense Council, Marchuk came to be known as an ardent supporter of Ukraine's membership in NATO. And while he seemingly had the support of Kuchma for this, by the spring of 2004 the official Ukrainian position on NATO and EU membership was beginning to backslide. As the 2004 presidential election campaign heated up, presidential hopeful Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych stated that he was opposed to Ukrainian membership in NATO. This placed Yanukovych, who was relying heavily on the support of Kuchma and his "party of power," directly at odds with Defense Minister Marchuk.

Another factor which might have contributed to Marchuk's sudden dismissal was his refusal during an interview for the BBC to support any of the candidates running for president. Given the tense atmosphere in Kyiv and the almost obligatory support given to Yanukovych by high officials, this refusal was seen by some as a dangerous deviation.

Many in Kyiv have speculated about why Marchuk did not join with the heads of the other "power ministries" in signing a statement warning the opposition not to attempt a "Georgian"-type rebellion if their candidate lost the elections. Some analysts see this refusal as the reason for Marchuk's demise.

Whatever the real motives Kuchma had for firing his old nemesis/friend Yevhen Marchuk, it is doubtful that Yevhen Kyrylovych will disappear from the Ukrainian political scene — regardless of who wins the presidential race.

Too many high-ranking officials in Kyiv suspect that Marchuk, the former SBU chief, has too much compromising information on them and their activities in various illegal schemes for him to be left out in the cold.

St. Vladimir's U.C.W.L.C. "Celebrates Its Ukrainian Roots"

Sept. 12, "Grandparents' Day" on the calendar, the U.C.W.L.C. of St. Vladimir's Parish, Edmonton, hosted their annual fall tea. The theme for the tea was: "Celebrating Our Ukrainian Roots". Babas and didos — our forefathers and mothers of the past — were honored for "planting the seeds of our Ukrainian heritage tree" and babas and didos of the present and future were urged to "plant new seeds" in the younger generations in order to ensure that the roots of our heritage will always be strong.

The setting was autumnal with the key decorative element being the heritage tree filled with "apples" and anchored with strong roots — the apples being symbolic of the parish's families and the roots depicting the various components of our culture. The tree was the artistic creation of young U.C.W.L.C. members, Natalie Danilak. Tables were adorned with red crabapple branches in vases with apple seeds sprinkled on mirrors. Tea conveners, tea servers, and other helpers, dressed in Ukrainian attire, wore apple pins specially made for this special occasion. Three parish children (Oksana Korchaba, and Zlata and Sasha Maas), also dressed in Ukrainian attire, greeted guests at the door and handed out apples.

Very Rev. Fr. M. Kowalchyk, parish priest, gave brief opening remarks stating that we should keep in our prayers our deceased babas and didos. After Fr. Kowalchyk's blessing, the Nicholas Youth Choir, under the direction of Joyce Chrunek-Rudiak, led all present in the singing of "Otche Nash". U.C.W.L.C. Branch President, Luba Kowalchyk, welcomed all guests and outlined the tea's theme. Three "special babas" — Helen Lynn, Slava Lotosky, and Julia Paley were acknowledged for being founding members of St. Vladimir's U.C.W.L.C. St. Vladimir's U.C.W.L.C. Branch's history was on display showing the contributions and accomplishments of its members, and including an in memoriam list of its deceased members.

Head table guests included Fr. Kowalchyk, Luba Kowalchyk, Daniella Murynka (guest speaker), Helen Sirman (Eparchial U.C.W.L.C. President), Joe Synyshyn (Eparchial U.C.B.C. President), Dave Kowal (President of Centralia), Stan Kobylko (National U.C.B.C. President and notable apple grafter), Sisters of Service of Mary Immaculate (Sr. Andrea, Sr. Esther, Sr. Rose), Fr. Wm. Hupalo, Fr. P. Brezden, Dobrodyka Shirley Brezden, Fr. M. Planchak, and Dobrodyka Maria Wojcichowsky. Also three U.C.W.L.C. honorary life members: Anne Burtnik, Mary Necyk, and Natalka Yanitski were in attendance. A late surprise appearance was made by mayoral candidate Robert Noce.

A touching bread and salt ceremony (accompanied by Ukrainian music) took place as Andrew, Wanda, and little Kristina Kowalchyk, dressed in Ukrainian costumes, presented the bread and salt to Kristina's "baba and dido" and to the head table guests. Young U.C.W.L.C. member, Nicole Maas, on behalf of St. Vladimir's U.C.W.L.C., presented Andrew and

Daniella Murynka

Wanda with an apple seedling and urged them to "plant the seeds of their unique heritage in their children" and "to continue being a source of inspiration to other young Ukrainian families in their parish."

Tea pourers, ladies from neighboring parishes in Edmonton who have been very culturally active, were: Nadia Cyncar, Anne Fedyna, Mary Holowaychuk, Rosanne Kobylko, Evelyn Koch, Helen Sirman, Patricia Steblyk, and Eva Tomiuk.

Sixteen year old Daniella Murynka, granddaughter of the late Danylo (noted Ukrainian poet and patriot) and Nadia Murynka and Walter and Natalka Yanitski of St. Vladimir's Parish, was the guest speaker. Daniella, a gifted writer and a girl of many talents, is an outstanding example of youth who are proud of their Ukrainian roots. She is very active in her Ukrainian Catholic community and is fluent in the Ukrainian language. For the past two years she has spent two weeks in Ukraine where she has experienced its rich history and unique culture. Daniella's moving and impressive speech on "Celebrating Our Ukrainian Roots" held everyone spellbound. She received a standing ovation for her message which showed so much wisdom for someone so young. Her concluding remarks were particularly noteworthy: "More than anything, today, I wanted to try to express the combined gratification of all the youth, the future Ukrainians of Canada, towards our dedicated ancestors for blessing us with such a rich cultural heritage. This is a topic that is extremely close to my heart because of my relationship with my grandparents. And that is the beauty of this occasion; we have the pioneer members of our Ukrainian community here with us today. And all my words are dedicated to those who came before us, to break the ground, to raise the walls, and to open the door — to a future of proud Ukrainians.

"But now, I want to speak to the youth, to those of you with your own families and children, with your whole lives ahead of you.

"We must remember our language or our culture will die. We must remember and practice our traditions, or the culture will die. We must take our ethnicity hand in hand with our families and communities — and make it a part of our lives, or it will die.

"By taking part in such a rich culture, by learning the language and the dances, and the songs, by wearing a blouse and calling yourself Ukrainian — you accept the responsibility to preserve and love the culture to the best of your abilities. It is the responsibility and the duty of all of us, to not only remember our ancestors, but also to carry on our culture, and pass it to our children, in such a way that they too will be proud to call themselves Ukrainian.

"Because as long as a culture lives in the minds and hearts and actions of its people - and not in their history books — then it will never die.

"And is we do not? If we, the youth, choose not to carry on the traditions of those who came before us, decide that someone else will do it, think that it is not our responsibility? Then the actions, and hard work and perseverance, then the tolerance and love and patience, then the very lives of the Ukrainians who came before us amount to nothing. Because something has to be remembered, in order to make it real. Someone has to be able to sing the old folk songs, or cook traditional foods, and in essence, teach the pride and unity-centered values and morals of the Ukrainian culture, in order for it to exist.

"And so I challenge those of you today, to take the torch from our Babas and Didos. They planted the seeds in us, and now, it is our responsibility to give their work purpose. Because the remarkable thing about being Ukrainian, is that we are still, Ukrainian. We are not Russian, or Polish, or Turkish — we are Ukrainian. And regardless of who tried to invade us or change us or eradicate us entirely, regardless that it has been 100 years or more since our ancestors set foot on Canadian soil, an entire ocean from their native nation — we are still Ukrainian. But we wouldn't be, without the dedication and love of our ancestors."

Another highlight of the afternoon's program was the amazing performance of the visiting St. Nicholas Youth Choir. Formed in 2000 and consisting of 15 members ranging in ages 8 - 15, St. Nicholas Choir's mandate has been to preserve and promote the use of the Ukrainian language in divine liturgies and in the singing of Ukrainian folk and children's songs. "Participating in a Ukrainian Liturgy in Ukrainian and singing Ukrainian songs in Ukrainian truly captures the essence of our Ukrainian culture", states Joyce Chrunek-Rudiak; and as this remarkable choir sang its traditional and contemporary songs, it once again captured the hearts of its intent audience and helped us all to celebrate proudly our Ukrainian roots.

Still another highlight of this special occasion was a remarkable display of 30 beautiful dolls from various regions of Ukraine. These dolls were setup by Nadia Cyncar, courtesy of the U.C.W.L.C. Museum in Edmonton. A cheque for $1000 was presented to Cyncar to be given to the museum.

The event concluded with the singing of Mnohaya Lita for all babas and didos, past, present, and future who planted, are planting, will plant the seeds our unique heritage.

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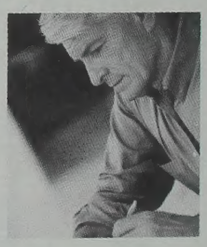

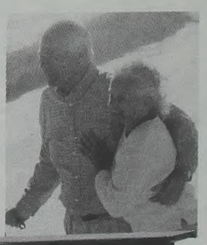

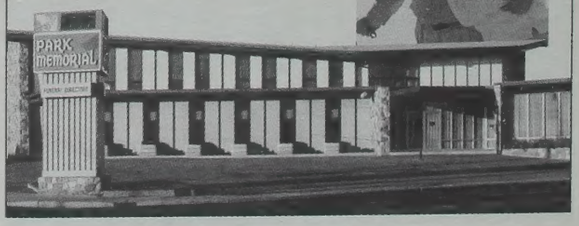

Pictured above: Kelly Hrudey, daughter Jessica with Orest Haydey, President of St. Andrews' Men's Club, presenting the appreciation gift of the "Rose of Sharon" by Larissa Sembaliuk-Cheladyn.

St. Andrew's Men's Club honours Kelly Hrudey

(St. Andrew's Men's Club)—The St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Parish Men's Club, in Edmonton, honoured former NHL goalie Kelly Hrudey at their annual Salmon Supper Sept. 20, before an audience of 130 members and guests.

Edmonton native Hrudey entertained the audience with his humour, knowledge and experiences in his rise to the National Hockey League, where he played for 15 years. His analysis, "Behind the Mask", and "After Hours" segments have made him a respectable member of "Hockey Night in Canada" on Saturdays.

Kelly concluded his presentation with numerous anecdotes of the human side of sport much to the enjoyment of the audience where it earned him a standing ovation.

Kelly resides in Calgary with his wife Donna and three daughters.

Rincón rewarded by Dynamo

(UEFA)—FC Dynamo Kyiv have rewarded forward Diogo Rincón with a new contract that will take the versatile Brazilian up to 2010.

Rincón, whose previous agreement with the Ukrainian club had two more years to run, has been a key performer for the club since moving to Kiev in August 2002

He has scored 16 goals in 60 league matches for Dynamo but has an even better record in European competition, averaging a goal in every other match. In this season's UEFA Champions League, Rincón has started well with two goals in the 4-2 home victory against Bayer 04 Leverkusen, Sept 27.

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БУДЬМО в КОНТАКТІ!

Ukraine maintain unbeaten streak

By Igor Linnyk

(UEFA)—Ukraine maintained their unbeaten start to FIFA World Cup qualifying Group 2 as Olexiy Bielik and Andriy Shevchenko scored to give them victory against Georgia in Lviv, Oct. 13.

It took just 12 minutes for FC Shakhtar Donetsk striker Bielik to break the deadlock for Ukraine, who had five points from their opening three fixtures. In the 12th minute Andriy Voronin sent in a corner that deceived Georgian goalkeeper Akaki Devadze and Bielik pounced.

Georgia, who had held Turkey and defeated Albania in their first two competitive games under French coach Alain Giresse, responded well and Malkhaz Asatiani was sent through before forcing Ukraine goalkeeper Olexandr Shovkovskiy to make a fine save. Ukraine, denied victory against European champions Greece on Oct. 9 by a late equaliser, remained lively, with Shevchenko a threat from free-kicks.

Asatiani was proving an immense presence in the centre, though, and Ukraine coach Oleh Blokhin responded on 39 minutes by introducing a fourth midfield player, Oleh Shelayev, for striker Voronin.

None the less, Georgia started the second half brightly, but forwards Shota Arveladze and Sandro Iashvili were well shackled by the home defence. Asatiani did receive the ball in the box on 66 minutes after a break down the right, but could not beat Shovkovskiy.

Having withstood the pressure, Ukraine sealed the win ten minutes from time when Oleh Gusev picked up the ball in the Georgian box and found Shevchenko, who made no mistake from 13 metres.

It what now looks a crucial game, Ukraine travel to play Turkey on 17 November. Georgia welcome Denmark the same day.

Sports

Ukraine's Andriy Shevchenko (C) holds off a challenge from Georgia's Levan Tskitishvili (L) and Otar Khizaneishvili (R) during their World Cup European zone Group Two qualifying soccer match in Lviv, Oct. 13. REUTERS/Gleb Garanich

Greeks hold Ukraine to draw in Kyiv

Substitute Vassilios Tsiartas's stunning free-kick nine minutes from time revived Greece's FIFA World Cup qualifying campaign as the European champions came from behind to earn a crucial Group 2 point against Ukraine at Kyiv's Olyimpiyskiy stadium, Oct. 9.

Andriy Shevchenko had put the home side ahead three minutes into the second half in a game Ukraine largely dominated, but Tsiartas hit back from 30 metres to keep Greece in touch with the early leaders.

Ukraine coach Oleh Blokhin made four changes from the side that beat Kazakhstan last month, Shevchenko, Serhiy Fedorov, Oleh Shelayev and Andriy Voronin all coming in, while Greece coach Otto Rehhagel welcomed back defender Traianos Dellas.

Greece were looking to put a slow start behind them after losing to Albania and drawing with Turkey, but it was Ukraine that made the early running. On ten minutes Shevchenko drew the first save from Nikopolidis and the striker came close again soon after, just failing to meet Andriy Vorobey's flick on.

Greece's best attacking threat came from the runs of Giourkas Seitaridis down the right, but Rehhagel's side were restricted largely to half-chances, Georgios Karagounis shooting wide on 19 minutes.

Ukraine were looking most dangerous, but Nikopolidis was in superb form. On 28 minutes he tipped Voronin's low shot away, then dove to keep out Oleh Gusev's stinging strike. But it was Greece that should have gone into the break in front when on 38 minutes Dellas picked out Stylianos Giannakopoulos, but unmarked the midfield player headed straight at Olexandr Shovkovskiy.

Nikopolidis had kept his side in the match in the first half, but his fine work was undone three minutes into the second when he allowed Shevchenko's innocuous free-kick from the touchline to bounce off the slippery surface and squirm under his body.

It was an awful blow for Greece who were fortunate not to fall further behind. On 56 minutes Dellas's block kept out Voronin's strike, then Nikopolidis turned away Andriy Rusol's diving header.

Striker Angelos Charisteas came on for Giannakopoulos but Greece were struggling to make any headway, until Tsiartas stepped up to earn his side a point in stunning fashion on 81 minutes. Greece may still be looking for their first win after three matches, but they will take on Kazakhstan with renewed heart next month after claiming this point.

2006 World Cup Qualifying Round EuropeanGroup 2

Teams	Pld	W	D	L	GS	GA	Pts
Ukraine	4	2	2	0	6	3	8
Turkey	4	1	3	0	6	2	6
Albania	4	2	0	2	3	5	6
Denmark	3	1	2	0	4	2	5
Georgia	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
Greece	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Kazakhstan	3	0	0	3	1	7	0

Pld: Matches played **W**: Won **D**:Drawn **L**: Lost **GS**: Goals for **GA**: Goals against

Wladimir Klitschko scrapes by

Wladimir Klitschko survived a fourth round knockdown to beat DaVarryl Williamson on points after the heavyweight fight was stopped prematurely by an accidental head butt, Oct. 3, reports Agence France Presse.

Klitschko, who suffered a nasty cut over his right eye, won by a split decision after the ring doctor halted the scheduled 10-round fight at the end of the fifth round. The clash of heads took place late in the fifth and opened a deep gash that the ring doctor said went down to the bone.

"I built my fight with my left jab," said Klitschko. "I was using both hands well and I wanted to continue the fight."

Two judges scored the fight for Klitschko, 49-46, 49-46, and one judge had Williamson ahead 48-47 at the time the featured heavyweight bout was stopped on a card that also boasted two title bouts at the new outdoor Amphitheatre at Caesars Palace.

Williamson was frustrated with the ending. He said his plan was to take tire Klitschko by forcing him to go into the later rounds.

He knocked Klitschko down in the fourth round with a straight right hand to the head.

"This is unfinished business," Williamson said. "We should do it again."

Klitschko (43-3, 39 KOs) tried to downplay the knockdown saying, "I was off balance and he caught me with a right hand."

The odd ending and knockdown did little to boost Klitschko's sagging credibility.

It wasn't long ago that the younger Wladimir was being hailed as the stronger of the two fighting Klitschko brothers.

Now older brother Vitali holds the World Boxing Council title while Wladimir's stock has fallen.

On April 10, Wladimir was floored in the fifth round by Lamon Brewster in a fight for the vacant World Boxing Organization title.

Vitali will make the first defence of his WBC title against Britain's Danny Williams in December.

AeroSvit celebrates its 10th anniversary

Business

(AeroSvit)—AeroSvit Ukrainian Airlines celebrates its 10th anniversary this month. Over the past decade, AeroSvit achieved unprecedented results in the Ukrainian airline industry, evolving from a start-up company operating only one aircraft to Ukraine's leading air carrier with the largest aircraft fleet, the greatest number of passengers carried, the most extensive route network, and the most dynamic growth in operational results.

In the middle of 2004, AeroSvit became the first air carrier in the history of independent Ukraine to appear among the top 200 airlines of the world rated by the number of passengers carried. Today, AeroSvit operates flights to 25 countries of the world. It is also the only Ukrainian air carrier that performs flights on long-haul routes (including transatlantic routes) and is one of the largest air carriers in the Ukrainian domestic market.

"The past 10 years have been truly amazing," said Gregory Gurtovoy, AeroSvit General Director and CEO. "We have been working very hard to make AeroSvit the premiere airline not just by European standards, but by worldwide standards as well. Our growth in revenue, market share, and passenger traffic worldwide is only surpassed by our relentless commitment to quality, safety, and overall passenger satisfaction."

Indeed, the airline has had a number of significant accomplishments recently. As the largest airline employer in Ukraine with about 1,300 employees, AeroSvit has more than doubled its market share over the past five years, from 16 to 34 percent, and modernized its entire fleet faster than any other Eastern European airline with the addition of Boeing 767 and 737 aircraft. As of September 2004, AeroSvit has the largest route network out of all air carriers in Ukraine, comprised of 11 domestic and 45 international routes to 25 countries.

Most impressive is AeroSvit's growth in North America. With two Boeing 767-300ER aircraft connecting Kyiv with New York and Toronto, AeroSvit is already planning daily transatlantic flights to New York next year. "We are seeing an incredible growth in passenger and cargo demand," stated Kostadin Botev, AeroSvit's regional manager for North America. "As North American airlines are tackling a number of operational and financial challenges, we are posting strong results in passenger and cargo traffic that require increased capacity." Indeed, the airline has already implemented a state-of-the-art eBooking and Purchasing systems available through www.aerosvit.com, and is planning to start the eTicketing system in 2005.

"Since the commencement of our North American operation, the traffic increase — to about 40,000 passengers per year — and our expansion plans demanded implementation of the online system and became a strong impetus for further growth," added Botev.

And grow it has. AeroSvit's operating revenues in 2003 were US$106.0 million — an increase of 66 percent compared to 2002 results — and the company is predicting a 70 to 80 percent increase in yearly revenue for 2004. Predictable annual passenger traffic (2004) exceeded 1 million passengers, which represents about 60% growth comparing to 2003. And the company is profitable with some of these profits invested back. In addition to considerable investments into modern aircraft fleet and highly-qualified personnel, AeroSvit Ukrainian Airlines has also decided to carry out the construction of a new international terminal in the major airport of Ukraine — Boryspil — that will cost over US$80 million. According to the plan that is already being carried out, the new terminal complex will be put into operation in March 2006.

Calgary firm reaches agreement to farm into Kerch gas

(UkrNews)—Calgary-based Bankers Petroleum Ltd. announced on Oct. 10 that it has entered into an agreement to farm into the Kerch gas and condensate project comprising six defined petroleum fields, located on the Crimean Peninsula of the Ukraine, with Transeuro Energy Corporation, formerly Indusmin Energy Corp. In addition, Bankers will provide a C$1,000,000 order in a C$4,000,000 private placement into Transeuro.

The Kerch project consists of the rights for exploration, pilot production and further development of six oil, gas and condensate fields encompassing a total area of 339 square kilometres in the Crimean Peninsula. The 72 square kilometre "West Field" comprises two fields (Karlavskoye and Krasnopolianskoye) and the 267 square kilometre "East Field" includes the remaining four fields (Povorotne, Pridorozhne, Alekseyevske and Sliuserevska).

Bankers has agreed to invest up to US$15,000,000 into Transeuro's operating subsidiary ("OPSUB") which owns a 72% interest in the Kerch Oil and Gas Project located in the Crimean Peninsula in Ukraine.

Transeuro has agreed to offer all properties that it acquires on the Crimean Peninsula to OPSUB going forward.

Once Bankers has invested US$10,000,000 and if the Crimean properties are cash flow positive from oil and gas production, Bankers has the option to acquire the outstanding balance of OPSUB's shares by paying to Transeuro US$1,500,000.

Upon the closing of the initial funding, Bankers will be the operator of all of the OPSUB's Crimean properties and will utilize Transeuro's existing field personnel.

USAID to open 13 more farmer centres

(Ukrainian News Agency)—The US international development agency intends to open 13 more centres for providing free legal assistance to people in the countryside within the framework of the project in support of land privatization in Ukraine in 13 regions before the end of the first half of 2005.

USAID mission director Christopher Crowley announced this at a press conference, Oct. 7. For peasants to know their rights better, Crowley said. He said that the Agency had already opened 12 law centres in 12 regions: Vinnytsia, Zhytomyr, Lviv, Odesa, Poltava, Rivne, Sumy, Ternopil, Kharkiv, Kherson, Chernivtsi and Chernihiv regions.

Crowley noted that the activity of these centres has already yielded results: peasants better know their rights and much less frequently get defrauded from different structures making profit out of the issue of government acts.

The new 13 centres will open in 2004 — first half of 2005. The law centres will also deal with providing to new landowners free legal aid and consultations. Crowley added that the term of the USAID project, which was to close in January 2005, has been recently prolonged to March 2006.

According to the USAID, by Oct. 1 over 835,000 government acts for the right of ownership of farming land were granted with the support of the USAID project.

The owners of over 204,000 land certificates are awaiting redistribution of land lots, and over 600,000 government acts to be given to the appropriate bodies of state power have been prepared.

Oct. 6, the Verkhovna Rada extended the moratorium on the sale of land until January 1, 2008. In June, Rada extended the moratorium on the sale of land until 2007, but President Leonid Kuchma vetoed this law.

In July 2003, the USAID opened a legal centre in Kherson for rendering assistance to the rural population within the framework of a project for supporting land privatization in Ukraine. The project of support for privatization of land in Ukraine is the largest project of the USAID.

Ukraine's 41.8 million hectares of area (69.3% of territory) is farmlands, including 33 million hectares of plough-land.

Ambassador discusses investment prospects in Manitoba

(UkrNews)—Ukrainian Ambassador to Canada Mykola Maimeskul discussed investment possibilities with several Manitoba officials during his visit to Winnipeg, Oct. 4-5.

Maimeskul met with Lieutenant Governor John Harvard, Agriculture Minister Rosann Wowchuk, and other officials, reported the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada, Oct. 4

The ambassador briefed the Canadian officials on the ongoing cooperation between Ukraine and Canada. In addition, the sides discussed the possibility of establishing more active contacts at the interregional level in the economic, research and cultural spheres.

He also expressed gratitude to Manitoba for participation in the implementation of a number of projects with Ukraine, particularly the FARM project (structural reforms in agriculture), as well as the project of advanced technologies directed at increase of grain quality in Ukraine.

Speaker warns against inflation

(Interfax-Ukraine)—Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn has warned against possible inflation growth with further price hikes in consumer goods.

"There is a threat of accumulation of the inflation potential, which may lead to the growth of prices of consumer goods," Lytvyn said at a meeting with MPs of all levels and leaders of the region enterprises in Luhansk on Oct. 8.

He noted that at the present stage the state manages to contain inflation at the expense of harvest after the year of bad harvest and by the governmental actions.

"The main thing is to envisage and prevent by market, economic means a new price wave after the presidential election," the speaker said.

Consumer prices grew 1.3% in Ukraine in September, and from January to September consumer prices grew 5.6%.

In August 0.1% deflation was registered in Ukraine.

Briefly

Rada extends moratorium

(RFE/RL)—The Verkhovna Rada on Oct. 6 passed a new version of amendments to the Land Code, thereby extending the moratorium on the sale of farmland by individuals and legal entities in Ukraine from Jan. 1, 2005 to Jan. 1, 2008, Interfax reported. In June, the parliament adopted the bill that extended this moratorium to Jan. 1, 2007, but President Leonid Kuchma vetoed it the following month.

Sunoil yields slip

(APK)—In September the average-weighted yield of sunflower oil at industrial crushing plants of Ukraine was 42%, which is by half point less than in the 2003-04 on average. The comparison with September 2003 has shown a 3% drop, but it is not exponential, as many crushing enterprises were starting last season with processing the 2002 crop seeds, which were characterized by high oil content.

Livestock sales decrease

(APK)—Sales of animals and poultry for slaughter in Ukraine in January-September 2004 decreased 5.6% from the same period last year — to 1.63 million metric tons (MT) in live weight, according to State Statistics Committee. Production of milk since the start of this year until the end of September made 10.95 million MT, which is approximately at the last year's level (10.98 million MT in January-September 2003). Production of eggs over the 9 months of this year increased 2.4% from the same months of 2003 - to 9.53 billion.

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Protests and controversy in Rada

(RFE/RL)—Lawmakers from the pro-government coalition in the Verkhovna Rada on Oct. 8 walked out of the session hall in protest against what they say is the opposition's use of the parliamentary rostrum for exercising "shady election techniques," Interfax reported.

Lawmaker Volodymyr Zubanov read the pro-government coalition's statement saying that the opposition in the Verkhovna Rada "is defaming the honor and dignity of the authorities."

The statement also accused the parliamentary leadership of failing to "counteract the rudeness of the political opposition forces."

According to Interfax, two deputies from the pro-government Agrarian Party and Regions of Ukraine caucuses remained in the hall and took part in several votes, using the magnetic voting cards of their absent colleagues and thus contributing to the formal passage of several bills.

It is not clear whether these bills will be considered as legally adopted by the legislature.

Chumachenko wants to apply for citizenship

(RFE/RL)—Kateryna Chumachenko, the wife of presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko, told the Kyiv-based weekly "Zerkalo nedeli" of Oct. 2-8 that she is planning to apply for Ukrainian citizenship within the next few days.

According to her, political opponents of her husband are using her U.S. citizenship to suggest that she may be a U.S. spy and that she constitutes a "national security threat" in Ukraine.

Chumachenko's parents, who were born in Ukraine, met in Germany during World War II and got married in 1945. They subsequently emigrated to the United States.

Chumachenko has been living permanently in Kyiv since 1999.

Newsbriefs

Yanukovych balled and stoned, ministry says

(RFE/RL)—The Ukrainian Interior Ministry on Oct. 2 reported that it had found two hard objects, a metal ball with a diameter of 1 centimeter and a stone with a diameter of 5 centimeters, which might have been used in an attack on Prime Minister and presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovych in Ivano-Frankivsk on Sept. 24, Ukrainian media reported. According to the Interior Ministry, Yanukovych was attacked by several "hard objects." A video of the attack, which was shown on Ukraine's Channel 5 and major European news channels, appeared to show Yanukovych being hit only by a raw egg.

Yanukovych joke site blocked

The "Ukrayinska pravda" website reported on Oct. 12 that a website presenting anecdotes about Ukrainian Prime Minister and presidential candidate Yanukovych has been blocked for surfers using the connection supplied by the Ukrainian companies Ukrtelekom and Ukrsat. Ukrtelekom is a state-run telecommunications giant in Ukraine, while Ukrsat is described by "Ukrayinska pravda" as a company "close to the authorities." Jokes about Yanukovych began to circulate on the Internet shortly after an egg attack on him in Ivano-Frankivsk on Sept. 24.

Marchuk promises sensational information

RFE/RL)—Yevhen Marchuk, who was unexpectedly fired from the post of defense minister by President Leonid Kuchma earlier, said on Channel 5 television on Sept. 29 that "sensational data" will be made public "soon" regarding the secret recordings made by presidential bodyguard Mykola Melnychenko in Kuchma's office in 2000, Interfax reported. "There will be a sensational variant to keep up some versions [of the Melnychenko case] of a provocative character, which will overshadow all other events," Marchuk said.

Yushchenko sues Yanukovych spokeswoman

(RFE/RL)—Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko has filed a lawsuit with a district court in Kyiv, accusing Prime Minister Yanukovych's spokeswoman, Hanna Herman, of libeling him and his bloc, Our Ukraine, Ukrainian news agencies reported on Oct. 1. Following an egg attack on Yanukovych in Ivano-Frankivsk on Sept. 24, Herman issued a statement accusing Our Ukraine adherents of being behind the incident. Moreover, Yushchenko sued lawmaker Oleksandr Koloniari from the pro-government Regions of Ukraine caucus, for slander.

24 names on ballot

(RFE/RL)—Two Ukrainian printing houses have started printing a total of nearly 40 million ballots for the Oct. 31 presidential vote, Ukrainian media reported last week. There will be 24 names on the ballot. The presidential race initially had 26 candidates, but two withdrew.

Communists, Socialists on Saddam list

The Central Intelligence Agency on Oct. 6 released a list of firms and people from dozens of countries allegedly given oil vouchers by Saddam Hussein's government that could be turned into cash, reports Reuters. Among the alleged recipients of oil vouchers were Russian ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky and his Liberal Democratic Party, the Russian presidential office, the Russian Foreign Ministry, Ukraine's Community Party and Ukraine's Socialist Party.

Authorities target youth groups

By Taras Kuzio

(Jamestown Foundation)—As Ukraine's presidential election approaches, the authorities are increasingly nervous about the increased visibility of youth NGOs monitoring the election. October has seen an especially large number of intimidation tactics and violence targeted against these groups.

On Oct. 4, Tetiana and Oleksandr Batrak, Donetsk-based activists from Student Wave, a youth election-monitoring initiative linked to candidate Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine group, were kidnapped by skinheads, locked in a basement, and interrogated about their planned activities. The Batraks were whisked away in an automobile with no license plates. As leaders of Student Wave noted, "It is nonsense when cars without [license] numbers can travel throughout the city and take away people and not be halted by the DAI [State Automobile Inspectorate] posts".

The skinheads demanded information that would suggest that Ukrainian youth groups might launch a Georgian-style popular revolution. They were particularly interested in how the students would react if the election results were falsified. When the kidnapped students replied that they would indeed organize students to protest fraud, the interrogators became "very agitated". They also openly admitted to the kidnapped students that they were "criminal bandits who are not afraid of anything".

It was no surprise that these tactics were used in Donetsk. According to Ukrayina moloda, local businessmen, the state administration, and organized crime groups are planning to engineer widespread election fraud in Donetsk. Massive election fraud occurred in Donetsk during the 1999 and 2002 elections, when Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych was still governor of the region.

The skinhead enforcers are well prepared, suggesting they are working on behalf of the authorities. The Donetsk thugs sought specific details about Student Wave's finances, membership, leaders, and objectives. They had files on each of the Student Wave leaders containing personal data that had to have come from university administrators or the Security Service (SBU). Different youth groups have noted that the SBU has questioned their members regarding an alleged coup by the opposition.

Ukraine's youth election-monitoring groups have organized two coalitions. The "New Choice" group brings together many well-known youth and election monitoring NGOs and is supported by the Europe XXI Foundation. New Choice grew out of the Civic Monitoring Committee active in the 2002 election, which saw the first large-scale youth mobilization. The "Freedom of Choice" coalition brings together 300 NGOs active in election monitoring.

Youth election-monitoring groups are involved in a wide range of activities in an attempt to counter violations and get out the youth vote. A traveling "Political Theater" has mocked Yanukovych over his presumed fear of eggs, after he collapsed last month when hit by one during his visit to Ivano-Frankivsk. In early October the radical youth group "PORA" (It's Time) even released chickens outside the Cabinet of Ministers building in Kyiv.

These NGOs also have more serious activities. Youth groups, such as the well-known Committee of Voters of Ukraine, have a strong reputation for election monitoring. Their assistance is invaluable for OSCE long-term observers who spend two months in Ukraine's regions prior to elections.

Youth groups have launched legal cases against the common practice of state officials campaigning on the job for Yanukovych. In early October the Kherson oblast governor, Serhiy Dovhan, was forced to defend his efforts on behalf of Yanukovych. Dovhan was soon removed after the case became widely publicized and damaged Yanukovych's ratings. The youth election-monitoring group "Znayiu!" (I Know!) is involved in providing positive information on the elections, educating elections monitors, and attempting to block election fraud. This informational strategy compliments threats by more radical youth NGOs to publicize corruption by election officials who may be tempted to take bribes in return for falsifying the election results.

PORA has been especially targeted, because the authorities have labeled it an "extremist" group. Numerous PORA members have been detained or arrested throughout Ukraine for minor "crimes" such as putting up stickers. PORA is perceived as radical because it was modeled on Serbia's OTPOR and Georgia's Khmara youth groups. Serbian OTPOR members, who were highly influential in the October 2000 democratic revolution in Serbia, have helped to train PORA. Ukrainian authorities remain fixated on the possibility that this election will trigger a repeat of the Serbian and Georgian revolutions in Ukraine, which they believe were instigated by the United States.

To counter PORA's success, the authorities have created a "Non-PORA." One of its first acts was an Oct. 12 demonstration in front of the U.S. embassy in Kyiv, using placards saying, "No to American Imperialism!" This anti-Americanism is part of the overall anti-American campaign unleashed by the authorities in an attempt to portray Yushchenko as an American stooge.

Oct. 12 Alexander Marich, a founder of OTPOR, was detained at Kyiv's Borispol airport and deported Oct. 13. Marich had a multi-entry visa and had spent most of the last two months in Ukraine, but official fear of OTPOR bringing the "Serbian/Georgian scenario" led to his deportation.

What most perturbs the authorities is that Yushchenko has overwhelming support among the younger generation. In contrast, Yanukovych's team had to pay students to attend a rally on his behalf in Kyiv on Sept. 29. These students responded "Yes!" to a call from Yanukovych's campaign headquarters when asked if they desired "Free and Fair Elections." But when asked "And you will vote for Yanukovych?" they replied "No!" on live television. The organizers abruptly ended the rally.

Student Wave is organizing an Oct. 16 student rally in Kyiv that plans to bring together 10,000 students from across Ukraine in support of Yushchenko. The rally will begin with a free concert in central Kyiv featuring Ukraine's two best known rock bands. The rally is intended to mobilize students behind demands for a free and fair election. In addition, it will provide concrete advice for students on how to resist pressure and intimidation from the authorities. According to the organizers, "The authorities are not happy at the level of support of the people's candidate, Viktor Yushchenko, among students".

Ukraine, Iraq sign military accord

(Interfax-Ukraine/BBC Monitoring Service)—The Ukrainian and Iraqi defence ministries signed a cooperation agreement on Oct. 7. The accord was signed at the Ukrainian National Defence Academy during a visit to Ukraine by an Iraqi military delegation headed by the secretary-general of the Iraqi Defence Ministry, Nuri Shaways.

Shaways and Ukrainian Deputy Defence Minister Ihor Tymofeyev signed the agreement, the press service of the Ukrainian Defence Ministry said. "The agreement marks the beginning of full-fledged cooperation between the two countries," Tymofeyev said after the signing.

For his part, Shaways said that cooperation between the two countries had really begun when the Ukrainian peacekeepers started taking part in the process to establish peace and bring stability to Iraq. "The agreement deepens our cooperation and I hope that the document will become the first big step towards a cooperation agreement between the governments of our countries," Shaways said.

Shaways told a briefing that the agreement envisages that Iraqi officers will be trained in Ukrainian academies (which will be paid for from Iraq's budget).

Talking about the plans of his country, Shaways said that his government is going to form its armed forces of 95,000 servicemen by the end of 2005. He also called on Ukraine to leave its peacekeepers in Iraq until the Iraqi army is formed.

Shaways emphasized that Iraq was interested in Ukraine's defence industry. Iraq "will buy weapons for its army only to protect its people", he said.

Ukraine to create new intelligence agency

(Interfax)—The Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council and Security Service have drafted a decree to set up a national intelligence agency, Vice Chairman of the Ukrainian Security Service Ihor Drizhchany said at a press briefing in Kyiv on Oct. 11.

He said a draft to make the Security Service's intelligence department an independent agency has been submitted to the president.

"The intelligence department is prepared to act as an independent agency," said Drizhchany.

He also said that Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma "set the task of reorganizing the Security Service into a special service meeting European standards when he was appointing Ihor Smeshko head of the Security Service."